American Institute of Architects.

ORGANIZED A.D. MDCCCLVII.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS,

Held in Boston, November 14th and 15th, 1871.

PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND PUBLICATIONS OF THE
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS,

And Sold by D. VAN NOSTRAND, No. 23 Murray St. and 27 Warren St., New York.

1872.

PUBLICATIONS

OF THE

American Institute of Architects,

D. VAN NOSTRAND,

Having made arrangements with the Committee on Library and Publications of the Institute, is prepared to furnish its publications to the trade and the public.

The publications consist of the Proceedings of the Annual Conventions of the Institute and Papers read before the Chapters of that body, as well as papers contributed by Members of the Institute and published by its Committee on Library and Publications.

They are elegantly printed Pamphlets of large quarto size, with two columns to a page.

The Pamphlets thus far issued comprise publications for four years past, and cover transactions of five years.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS TO DATE.

I.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL CONVENTION,

Held in New York, October 22d and 23d, 1867.

Comprising Minutes of the Convention; The Annual Address, by Richard Upjohn, President; Reports of the Trustees and Standing Committees, and the Closing Address. 32 Pages, Quarto.

II.

FIRE-PROOF FLOORS FOR BANKS, INSURANCE COMPANIES, OFFICE BUILDINGS AND DWELLINGS;

Tables showing the Distances from Centres at which Rolled Iron Beams should be Placed, and the Weight of Metal per superficial foot of the Floor. By R. G. Hatfield, F. A. I. A. 8 Pages, Quarto.

III.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION,

Held in New York, December 8, 1868,

Comprising the Minutes of the Convention; The President's Address, by Richard Upjohn, Esq., and the Reports of Trustees and Standing Committees. 16 Pages, Quarto.

IV.

REMARKS ON FIRE-PROOF CONSTRUCTION.

A Paper Read before the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, April 8, 1869, by P. B. Wight, F. A. I. A. 8 Pages, Quarto.

V.

THE ARCHITECTURAL AND OTHER ART SOCIETIES OF EUROPE.

Some account of their Origin, Processes of Formation, and Methods of Administration, with suggestions as to some of the conditions necessary for the maximum success of a National American Architectural Art Society, with its local dependencies, by A. J. Bloor, F. A. I. A. Read before the New York Chapter, A. I. A., Feb. 16, 1869. 62 Pages, Quarto.

VI.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION,

Held in New York, November 16th and 17th, 1869.

Comprising the President's Annual Address, by Richard Upjohn, Esq.; Reports of the Trustees and Standing Committees; Papers read by Messrs. Cluss, Upjohn and Hatfield, and the Closing Address on Professional Guilds, by E. L. Godkin, Esq. 72 Pages, Quarto.

The above Publications may also be had, BOUND IN CLOTH, making a Handsome Quarto Volume of 200 Pages.

VII.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,

Held in Philadelphia, November 8th and 9th, 1870.

Comprising the Annual Address, by Thomas U. Walter, LL.D., of Philadelphia; the Reports of the Trustees and Standing Committees; the Schedule of Competitions adopted by the Institute; the Closing Address by Wm. H. Furness, D. D., of Philadelphia, and other interesting matter. 60 pages, Quarto.

VIII.

TECHNICAL PROPORTION.

A Paper read at the Fourth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects, Nov. 9, 1870, by D. T. Atwood, F. A. I. A. 12 Pages, Quarto.

IX.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION,

Held in Boston, November 14th and 15th, 1871.

Address, **D. VAN NOSTRAND, 23 Murray St., N. Y.**

American Institute of Architects.

ORGANIZED A.D. MDCCCLVII.

PROCEEDINGS

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FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS,

HELD AT THE ROOMS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, BOSTON, ON TUESDAY, THE 14TH, AND WEDNESDAY, THE 15TH OF NOVEMBER, 1871.

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

Afternoon Session.

At three o'clock, P. M., the Convention was called to order. Mr. Richard Upjohn, President of the Institute, in the Chair.

Mr. P. B. Wight, Secretary of the Institute, acted as Secretary of the Convention.

Mr. Upjohn opened the proceedings by delivering the following

ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Gentlemen:

This is the Fifth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects, under its new organization as a Federal body, and the Fourteenth Anniversary of its incorporation as a Society.

It is our privilege on this occasion to hold our Convention in the Metropolis of New England. I am truly glad to meet you in a City of so much historic interest, distinguished not only for the commercial intelligence and enterprise of its people, but also for its moral excellence and refinement in the arts of civilization. Nor can I fail to remind you that the cause of our assembling here rests in the fact that, during the past year, the Boston Society has become a Chapter of the Institute, an accession to our numbers and ability, which can not fail to be both advantageous and honorable.

For myself, a peculiar interest attaches to this occasion, which, though of a personal nature, I trust I may be excused in mentioning. I call to mind that it was in this City that, almost forty years ago, I spent the earlier portions of what has proved to be a long and most interesting experience in the profession.

A glance at that period, by way of comparison, suggests that noticeable advances have been made by this City, not only in its territory, population and commercial standing, but in the increase of its architectural examples and culture. The Court House, built in 18——, the side elevation of which for its lack of ideas, has been not unaptly likened to a waffle iron, may be regarded as an exponent of the art of this period, evidence sufficient to force from us the confession, that the age had retrograded rather than advanced from the standard of Colonial times, an example of the latter being afforded in the State House. When, therefore, we turn from Boston forty years ago to Boston as she now is, and note her multiplying evidences of progress, we may well rejoice in the marked revival of architecture which it is now our privilege to witness—a revival which cannot fail to signalize and honor the present age. But apart from all local allusions, I take pleasure in referring you to that feature of our history as a profession, in which we may all take a just pride, and which has well become a subject of sincere congratulation as one of great general interest, viz.: the organization and prosperity of the American Institute of Architects, already, and destined still more fully to be, the grand representative body of the profession, the conservator of architecture in the United States.

While it is unnecessary to review the history of the Institute with any attempt at detail, we may properly notice our growth as a Society, which from a mere handfull has reached the goodly number of one hundred and fifty members, comprising Chapters in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and other cities. But there are yet many able and excellent men whom we should be glad to welcome as fellow-workers in the Institute. We are persuaded that their co-operation would tend to advance their individual interest, and what is of even higher consideration, the interest of the profession. For everything that contributes to ennoble the profession of Architecture, lends influence and value to the efforts of every Architect. Should we not then put forth every honest endeavor to gain the sympathy and co-operation of all good men in the great cause which we have in hand?

The increasing appreciation of the subject of Architecture by the community at large, though gradual, affords cheering indications that our labors are beginning to impress and educate the minds of our people. In this connection it may be well for us to consider with what aids and among what influences and associations we are working in our endeavors to perfect and embody our art. In the first place, as regards ourselves: We are differently situated from those of our profession who labor in countries abounding with ancient examples. Such witness of evidence and power as it spread over the Old World, it is not ours to enjoy. It is true, many of us have had our experience of Architecture enlarged and improved by a twelve months' tour, more or less, through Europe and other countries. But after all, this is a poor repast, when compared with the continued feast of those who dwell among the works of past ages and are awakened to note the wonderful creations surrounding them. The innumerable precedents which older examples present are invaluable to those who are anxious to learn. Then again, the *People* of those countries, whose civilization and culture so long ante-dates what is to be found amongst us, are more or less alive to the beauty of the works of their ancestors and they are ready to accept the labors of those whose vocation it is to restore and recreate the works of old.

We have not these advantages, our *situation* is different, our country is in its youth, our fathers, for generations back, were not reared on the soil which the present generation call, by right of birth, their own. No great monuments of finished art and laborious devotion, such as grace the Old World, have been for ages impressing their lessons on the minds and hearts of the children of this new land of ours. We and our children have grown and matured without such influence and education. But it is our mission *as a profession* to worthily supply, in this new field, these educators, so that at least WE be not less faithful to the men of the *future*, than, in other lands, the men of the past have been to those of the present. We *are* engaged in this very work now, when we produce with fitting accompaniments and originality what has been taught us by those of old times. Following in the well chosen steps of those who have preceded us, asking for the old paths, yet ourselves leading in the direction of an intelligent and timely progress, we shall have followers who will appreciate our aims, and labor with and after us in establishing truthful works. And indeed we are not without encouragement from the great mass of intelligent people among whom we labor. The increased facilities of communication with Europe, which are yearly drawing great numbers of our people into contact with the very examples which we would wish them to study, have been the means of leading them to accept and appreciate the well directed efforts of the profession. Men who have once seen and tasted of the beautiful, will not be long satisfied with what is inferior, especially if they have the means to provide for themselves what they have learned to admire and wish for. In the single instance of decoration, witness what an encouraging advance has been made during the past ten or twenty years. And generally it might be said that the revival of Architecture, in all departments, which is to be found in France and England, is being felt to a large extent, as a salutary influence and impetus amongst us. The art of photography, which has reached so high a standard, has contributed much toward the spread of enlightened views and appreciation of Architecture. Another encouraging feature of the times is to be noticed in the increased facilities of transportation, which have brought within the reach of almost every market the large varieties of stone and other building materials, in which our country so abounds. Owing to these facilities, we have been enabled to utilize, and that sometimes in combination, stones and marbles of various formations and color; therein, certainly, the Architect finds a wide and interesting field for the exercise of his best taste and skill.

Among all classes of building for commercial purposes, which have encouraged an advance in Architecture, the most notable seem to be those lately erected by Life Insurance Companies. It will be observed that the buildings of this class are generally fire-proof, and on a liberal scale in their appointments. We find them constructed several stories higher than ordinary, besides being furnished with steam elevators. For instance, in New York, two rival companies have constructed buildings to the height of ten or twelve stories, these being made easy of access by steam elevators. It will be noted, however, that while an additional number of stories may be introduced into buildings of this character, their introduction is to be deprecated in those which are not thoroughly fire-proof. With reference to the general subject of fire-proof buildings, you will have noticed that the late disastrous fire in Chicago has given occasion for some comment, and perhaps in a measure weakened confidence in the minds of some people, in the efficacy of buildings of this character. But it will be observed, that while the fire-proof buildings in Chicago did not withstand the fury of a conflagration which it would seem no human construction could check, it is not to be supposed, had the fire originated in the buildings themselves, that they would have been wanting in adequate protection and security. In fact, so far from there being any occasion, from the very exceptional instance of the Chicago disaster, for doubting the efficacy of fire-proof buildings, the circumstance of the fire having originated and gathered its irresistible force among wooden structures, should make us still more strongly insist that buildings in large cities should be erected on thoroughly fire-proof principles. And here the suggestion might be thrown out, that a building is rendered fire-proof rather by the solidity of its construction in its walls, partitions and floors, than by the mere fact alone of its being built of fire-proof material.

As to our efficiency as an Institute, I desire to say a few words. And first, I would impress upon the members the necessity of a more regular attendance upon the meetings of the Institute. Let each member act as if a quorum depended on his own attendance. We go to great expense of time and money in perfecting our organization. Our perfected organization enables us to act, but when the time for acting comes, we are not in our places. Yet upon our attention to this duty largely depends our advancement and usefulness as a Society. Doubtless a free intercourse and consultation between members, would help much towards cultivating a mutual understanding and appreciation of each other's work. No one will doubt that this end is most desirable, both for personal and general interests. We may certainly learn much from each other, and we shall lose nothing of our own reputation or credit by acknowledging the excellence of each other's work. The more such acknowledgement is duly made (*and we have not fallen so low as a profession but that it may be made in all sincerity*), the more will our profession be advanced in the estimation of the people, and one purpose of the Institute be realized, which is to encourage the spirit of fairness and candor among its members.

In conclusion, every encouragement should be given to the introduction of new members. I would also call your attention to the importance of the establishment of more Chapters throughout the country. To bring about this result individual effort is required. It should be made with all thoroughness and heartiness of purpose. Membership in the Institute is a positive honor or it is nothing. It is truly valuable—assisting all thus associated to an honorable fellowship. If we do our part faithfully as members of the Institute, the Institute will in turn benefit us. It can not fail to give professional weight and character to every one connected with it. Union of action will assist us to carry out our full purpose, bearing in mind this, that the latent power we possess, if aroused, is sufficient to overcome all obstacles, to disperse every cloud of misapprehension and doubt, and to make the fabric which we have designed and undertaken to build, perfect in its wise provisions, effective in its great purpose, and an honor to our calling.

The roll having been called by the Secretary,

The CHAIRMAN announced that there was a quorum present, and then said that in accordance with the requirements of Section 2, of Article XIII, of the By-laws, the Secretary would read the Report of the Board of Trustees.

The SECRETARY then read the Report of the Board of Trustees, as follows:

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

The Board of Trustees respectfully report the Transactions of the Institute for the year 1870–71:

The year just closed has been essentially one of routine, and has been marked by no event of special importance. Yet it has been characterized by a continual advance in the influence exerted by the Institute, and its importance as a professional body. This is seen in the large accessions to its membership and the organization of additional Chapters.

At the last Annual Convention the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Board of Trustees to consider the propriety of having a Committee on Foreign Correspondence established.

This matter was offered by Mr. Hunt at the suggestion of Mr. Pfeifter, then an Associate Member, and the difficulties in the way of establishing a correspondence with foreign architectural societies were mentioned by him in an address which is reported in the Proceedings of that Convention. The Board has not given as much thought to the subject as its importance demands, and is therefore not prepared to make any specific recommendations. By an amendment to the By-Laws, adopted at the same time, the Secretary for Foreign Correspondence is required to present a report at every convention; and as the first report will be presented on this occasion, the Secretary will doubtless be able to say whether or not he has found such a committee to be desirable. The recent enlargement of the Institute, the large accessions of members from all parts of the country, and the difficulties attending the administration of the affairs of such an extended organization, which has no constitutional location or centre of action, seem to dictate the policy of compacting its standing committees, making their number as few as possible, and generally simplifying its administrative machinery. It must be remembered also that the Secretary for Foreign Correspondence can at any time call in the assistance of other members as he may desire it, and is in no way trammeled in the exercise of the functions of his office. Experience, therefore, may guide the Institute to a solution of the question, better than any specific recommendation of the Board of Trustees.

A resolution was also adopted at the last Annual Convention, to the effect that the Board of Trustees be requested to prepare a form of building contract to be used by the profession, and by an amendment to the resolution, the Board was empowered to employ counsel. This matter was taken up by the Board at a recent meeting, and a sub-committee was appointed to prepare a form of contract. The sub-committee has not yet completed its labors, and the Board is therefore compelled to report progress. Meanwhile, the Secretary has received a number of blank forms now in use, as well as a set of forms of contract employed in the erection of Government buildings, which altogether make a valuable collection of forms for reference. Unless the Convention prefers to keep the matter in the hands of the Board, it might be referred to the Committee on Professional Practice or a Special Committee. The work is important and must be carried on to completion. Yet it is one which should not be hastily or inconsiderately done. During the past year the Institute of British Architects has adopted a form of contract in conjunction with a committee of builders, and it is now on trial. We may in time be able to profit from their experience. It appears to be desirable also to prepare a form of contract to be used as between architects and their clients, defining the rights, duties and obligations of each. But such a form must be based upon the results of the deliberations of the Committee on Professional Practice to be presented at the present Convention.

The previous Board having been authorized to omit the collection of any installment of the dues of members, if deemed desirable, reported that it had been unable to omit any such collections. This Board had hoped to be able to omit the collection of the second installment of the past year, and called upon the Treasurer for a report upon the finances, to ascertain if it were possible;

but it was found that the money in the treasury would not be sufficient to meet the remaining expenses of the year.

From an examination of the Treasurer's Report it will be seen that the annual dues have been scarcely sufficient to meet the current expenses, the balance on hand now being about $20 less than it was at the same time last year. The Board cannot, therefore, recommend any reduction of the annual dues for the present.

In the organization of new Chapters, the Board is enabled to report encouraging progress. At the beginning of the term, Chapters had already been organized in New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Cincinnati. At a meeting held December 6th, 1870, an application was received from Edward C. Cabot, Henry W. Hartwell, William R. Ware, Henry Van Brunt and W. P. P. Longfellow, Fellows of the Institute, asking that the Boston Society of Architects might be recognized as the Boston Chapter of the Institute. The applicants having complied with the provisions of Article XII., Section 2, of the By-Laws, the Boston Society of Architects was duly recognized as the Boston Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. By this action, twenty-six members of said society (whose names will appear in the appendix), became Associate Members of the Institute.

On the 13th of January of the present year, the Baltimore Chapter was organized in a similar manner. An application was received from John R. Niernsée, N. H. Hutton, E. G. Lind, John Murdoch and Thomas Dixon, Fellows of the Institute, asking that they and their associates might be recognized as the Baltimore Chapter of the Institute. The applicants having complied with all the provisions of the By-Laws, were duly recognized as the Baltimore Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. By this action ten associates were added to the roll as members of the Baltimore Chapter, having been named by the five Fellows as above.

Charters, duly executed and sealed, have been issued to the Boston and Baltimore Chapters.

The following amendments to the By-Laws were adopted at the last Annual Convention :

1. Strike out from Art. IV. the words "a Committee on Examination."

2. Strike out Art. IX., and number the following Articles in proper succession.

(The first and second amendments to take effect as soon as the New York Chapter shall appoint a similar Committee, and procure the passage of an Act by the Legislature of the State of New York, transferring to said Chapter the authority under the Building Laws, now delegated to the American Institute of Architects.)

Due notice of the passage of these amendments having been given to the New York Chapter, a letter was received from A. J. Bloor, Esq., Secretary of the N. Y. Chapter, and communicated to the Board, September 6th, giving official information of the enactment of such an amendment by the Legislature of the State of New York, and the appointment of a Committee on Examinations by that Chapter. Notice was accordingly given to the members that the conditions had been complied with, and that the amendments were in force.

A resolution adopted at the last Annual Convention, requested the Board of Trustees to gratuitously circulate a large number of copies of the Schedule of Competitions and Schedule of Charges. In accordance therewith, two thousand copies were printed, and nearly all of them have been distributed. They were sent to all the members of the Institute, and to practicing Architects in all parts of the country, with a circular requesting the recipients to assist in circulating them where desirable and to send for more copies if necessary. They were also sent to the newspapers throughout the country, and to corporate bodies, State and City officials, everywhere. Wherever information has been received of proposed competitions, the schedules have been sent to all the parties interested. It is gratifying to record, also, that copies have been requested in several instances by State officials and others contemplating the erection of public buildings. Information has been received of several instances in which the terms of the Schedule of Competitions have been adhered to, both partially and in substance. The Chapter Reports may also throw some light upon the practical working of the Schedule.

By resolution of the Fourth Annual Convention, a special committee of five, to be generally known as the Professional Practice Committee, was to be appointed by the Chairman of the Convention. This committee not having been named at the Convention, the Chairman announced to the Board the names of the committee men, in a communication which was received and laid before the Board on the 13th of January last. The committee is composed of Wm. R. Ware, of Boston, Chairman, James K. Wilson, of Cincinnati, Henry Dudley and Richard M. Hunt of New York, and J. McArthur, Jr., of Philadelphia.

During the year the Board has issued, for the information of members, four sheets of its transactions for the current year.

On the 13th of January the resignation of Mr. Chas. D. Gambrill as a member of the Board was received, and afterwards reluctantly accepted. The vacancy was not filled, and from that time the Board has worked short-handed.

Appropriations have been made of fifty dollars to each of the Chapters having reading rooms, for the support of the same.

The sum of one hundred and thirty-three dollars has also been appropriated to reimburse members of the Committee on Library and Publications for moneys advanced to pay the expenses of that committee in 1869, being the balance of the sum of two hundred and eighty-three dollars, the whole sum advanced.

The business office of the Institute has been continued during the year at 98 Broadway, New York.

No cases of inter-professional dispute have been laid before the Board during the year, and the only case in which the opinion of the Board in relation to professional precedents has been asked was one in relation to the fees for measuring and estimating public works. In this, the opinion of the Foreign Corresponding Secretary of the Royal Institute of British Architects was asked for, and communicated to the Board through the Secretary for Foreign Correspondence of the Institute.

The membership of the Institute has continually increased during the year. There have been three elections by mailed ballots for Honorary members, and Fellows and Associates have been elected by the Board on three occasions. Another large accession of Associates has been made through the Chapters. Thirteen Honorary members have been elected.

At the time of the last Annual Convention there were seventy-four Fellows in good standing. One Fellow elect has qualified, and two Fellows have been elected directly, while four have been elected from the body of Associates, making in all eighty-one Fellows. Four have been dropped for non-payment of dues, leaving the present number of Fellows seventy-seven.

The number of Associates at the time of the last Convention was twenty-eight. Three have been elected by the Board of Trustees; twenty-six have become Associates as members of the Boston Chapter; eleven of the Baltimore Chapter; three of the Philadelphia Chapter, and one of the Cincinnati Chapter; making in all seventy-two. The loss of Associates has been as follows: Four have been raised to Fellowship; one has been dropped for non-payment of dues; one has resigned; and one, Mr. Reuben W. Peterson, of Philadelphia, died during the year, this being the first death that has occurred in five years. With these deductions, the present number of Associates is sixty-five.

The total increase of members during the year over that of last year is forty per cent. A full list of all the names included in the above enumeration is given in an Appendix.

Respectfully submitted by

RICHARD UPJOHN, *Pres't.*
R. G. HATFIELD, *Treas'r.*
P. B. WIGHT, *Sec'y.*
HENRY DUDLEY.
JAMES RENWICK.
JOHN DAVIS HATCH.

APPENDIX.

List of Fellows at beginning of Term.

Anderson, Edwin,
Atwood, Daniel T.,
Barnett G. I.,
Bate, Arthur,
Bloor, A. J.,
Blythe, Walter,
Boyington, W. W.,
Cabot, E. C.,
Cady, J. Cleaveland,
Clinton, Charles W.,
Cluss, Adolph,
Cochrane, J. C.,
Congdon, Henry M.,
Dixon, Thomas,
Drake, Wm. H.,
Dudley, Henry,
Frazer, John,
Fernbach, Henry,
Fuller, Thomas,
Furness, Frank,
Gambrill Charles D.,
Gilman, Arthur,
Hallett, William T.
Haight, C. C.,

Hannaford, Samuel,
Hartwell, H. W.,
Hatch, J. Davis,
Hatfield O. P.,
Hatfield, R. G.,
Heard, Chs. W.,
Hewitt, Geo. W.,
Holly, H. Hudson,
Hutton, N. H.,
Hunt, R. M.,
Ireland, Joseph,
Isaacs, H. G.,
Laver, Augustus,
Le Brun, Napoleon,
Lineau, Detlef,
Lind, E. G.,
Littell, E. T.,
Longfellow, W. P. P.,
Loring, Sanford E.,
Markham, J. C.,
McArthur, John, Jr.,
McLaughlin, J. W.,
Miller, C. C.,
Nash, Albert C.,
Niernsée, J. R.,
Picquenard, A. H.,
Post, Geo. B.,
Potter, E. T.,
Renwick, James,
Ritch, John W.,
Richardson, H. H.,
Rogers, John,
Rogers, S. W.,
Sands, Joseph,
Scofield, Levi T.
Searle, Henry, R.,
Sims, Henry A.,
Sloan, Samuel,
Stewart, William,
Sturgis, John,
Sturgis, R., Jr.,
Upjohn, Richard,
Upjohn, R. M.,
Van Brunt, Henry,
Vrydagh, J. A.,
Walter, Thos. U.,
Walter, William,
Ware, Wm. R.,
Wight, P. B.,
Wilson, Jas. K.—74.

Fellow elect who qualified during term:

Neilson J. Crawford.—1

Fellows elected during Term who have qualified:

Myer, Henry E.,
Harney, Geo. E.—2.

Fellows raised from Associate Membership:

Pfeiffer, Carl,
Tinsley, Wm.,
Murdoch, John,
Thayer, S. J. F.—4.

Dropped for non-payment of dues.—4.

Number of Fellows at date of Report.—77.

ASSOCIATES.

List of Associates at beginning of Term.

Andrews, W. S.,
Babb, Geo. F.,
Burns, C. M., Jr.,
Button, S. D.,
Cassall, Chs. E.,
Hardenberg, H. J.,
Hastings, Eastburn,
Hathorne, Geo.,
Howe, H. G.,
Keller, Geo.,
Kelley, N. B.,
Kendall, E. H.,
McKean, J. T. C.,
McLane, H. R,
Murdoch, John,
Pelz, Paul J.,
Peterson, R. W.,
Pfeiffer, Carl,
Quincey, Edmund, Jr.,
Rand, Geo. D.,
Stone, Alfred,
Sidney, Jas. C.,
Summers, Geo.,
Tinsley, Wm.,
Thorn, F. G.,
Thorp, Alfred H.,
Willett, Jas. R.,
Whyte, Nicholas.—28.

Associates elected by the Board of Trustees.

Jones, Aneurin,
Lane, Samuel,
Holmes, E. L.—3.

Became Associates as Members of the Boston Chapter.

Bradlee, N. J.,
Woodcock, S. F.,
Weissbein, Louis,
Preston, W. G.,
Thayer, S. J. F.,
Rand, James H.,
Martin, A. C.,
Esty, Alex R.,
Faulkner, H. F.,
Brigham, Charles,
Clarke, Geo. R.,
Parker, Chs. E.,
Colburn, Theodore,
Dwight, B. F.,
Cummings, Chs. A.,
Lee, Francis L.,
Sears, W. T.,
Ropes, Geo., Jr.,
Billings, Jos. E.,
Dorr, Morris,
Billings, Hammat,
Swasey, A. E., Jr.,
Moore, F. H.,
Ryder, Calvin,
Follen, Charles,
Harris, E. D.—26.

Became Associates as Practicing Members of the Baltimore Chapter.

Ellicott, John,
Baldwin, C. F.,
Frederick, Geo. A.,
Davis, Frank E.,
Brauns, Henry,
Andrews, R. S.,
Gott, J. C.,
Wrenshall, J. C.,
Price, Bruce,
Wilkinson, J.,
Carson, Chs. L.—11.

Became Associates as Practicing Members of the Philadelphia Chapter.

Stewart, John,
Jones, A. B.,
Wilson, Joseph M.—3.

Became Associate as Practicing Member of the Cincinnati Chapter.

Bevis, Henry.—1.

Associates raised to Fellowship.

Pfeiffer, Carl, Murdoch, John,
Tinsley, Wm., Thayer, S. J. F.—4.

Dropped for non-payment of dues—1.

Resigned.

Quincy, Edmund, Jr.—1.

Died.

Peterson, Reuben W.—1.

Number of Associates at date of Report—65.

Honorary Members elected during the Year.

Edwin L. Godkin, New York.
Wm. H. Furness, D.D., Philadelphia.
Thomas H. Wyatt, President and Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, London.
Sir Digby Wyatt, F.R.I.B.A., London.
William Burgess, F.R.I.B.A., London.
Prof. Thomas L. Donaldson, F.R.I.B. A., London.
Geo. Godwin, F.R.I.B.A., London.
J. B. Waring, F.R.I.B.A., London.
J. A. Picton, Architect, Liverpool.
John Ruskin, Slade Professor of the Fine Arts at Oxford, London.
The Rt. Hon. A. H. Layard, D.C.L.M.P., London.
Cesar Daly, Architect, Member of the Institute of France, &c., Paris.

The Chairman:—The Treasurer will now make his Report.

Mr. R. G. **Hatfield**, Treasurer of the Institute, then read the following Report:

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

R. G. Hatfield, *Treasurer,*

In account with the American Institute of Architects—

1870.	Dr.		
Oct. 1.	—To Balance from last Report....	$290 10	
	" Cash received from Fellows as Initiation Fees...	80 00	
	" " Received from Members as Contributions....	1,980 00	
	" " Received from Sale of U. S. $500 Bond....	545 62	
Oct. 1	—To Cash Received from Committee on Library and Publications, for sales made by Western & Co...........	$39 90	
	" " Received from Committee on Library and Publications, for sale of Photographs.....	17 00	
	" " Received from Committee on Library and Publications, for sale of Megalethescope...	60 00	
			$3,012 62
	Cr.		
	By Cash paid for account of Honorary Membership...	$183 45	
	" " Paid for account of Secretary's Expenses...	347 68	
	" " Paid for account of Office Expenses.......	214 73	
	" " Paid for account of Committee on Library and Publications........	679 95	
	" " Paid for account of Convention Expenses....	283 75	
	" " Paid for account of Furniture..............	2 36	
	" " Paid for account of Rent	200 00	
	" " Paid for account of Chapter Expenses........	285 00	
1871.			
Oct. 1.	—Balance to next Report.........	815 70	
			$3,012 62

The Chairman appointed, as a Committee to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, Messrs. **McArthur**, **Van Brunt**, and **Fernbach**.

The Chairman:—The Committee on Library and Publications will now make their Report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND PUBLICATIONS.

The Committee on Library and Publications respectfully present the following as their report for the year 1870–71.

This Committee was organized December 10th, 1870, by the election of **Emlen T. Littell**, as permanent Chairman, and P. B. **Wight**, as permanent Secretary.

The attention of your Committee has been mainly given to the publication of the Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Convention, and the paper read by Mr. Atwood on that occasion. One thousand copies of the former, and two hundred and fifty copies of the latter have been published.

They have been distributed gratuitously, and no attempt has been made during the year to sell the publications of the Institute.

No papers or documents except the above have been issued. The Committee have received, through the Secretary of the Institute, copies of two papers read before the Cincinnati Chapter, by A. C. Nash, on "Sincerity," and by James W. McLoughlin, on the "Four Principal Public Libraries in the United States."

Your Committee has collected the sum of thirty-nine dollars and ninety cents, due from sales of Publications during the preceding year, and paid the same into the treasury. They have also sold seventeen photographs for seventeen dollars, and the Megalethoscope for sixty dollars, and have paid the same into the treasury. They have sold all the remaining Photographs of foreign monuments, as catalogued last year, to the New York Chapter, for one hundred dollars, but have not as yet collected the amount due.

A full set of the Proceedings of the American Society of Civil Engineers for the year 1870 has been received, also the Constitution, By-Laws and Annual Proceedings of the Architectural Society of Berlin.

Respectfully submitted by

EMLEN T. LITTELL,
P. B. WIGHT,
A. J. BLOOR,
W. P. P. LONGFELLOW.

The CHAIRMAN:—The Committee on Education will report.

Mr. W. R. WARE, Chairman of the Committee, then read the Report:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Although the old system of a seven years' apprenticeship has gone by, it remains true, and in the nature of the case it must always remain true, that in Architecture, as in the other industrial arts, a young man can obtain a practical acquaintance with the work of the profession only by daily service in an office through a term of years. The only difference is that his services are now paid for, not in kind, by previous years of elementary training, but in money, and the boy has to get his elementary training somewhere else. Although it is customary to regret the old days, the change is probably an advantageous one. Its best results are probably not inferior to the best results of the old system, and, with a little care they could be made much better than they are.

The problem of Architectural Education, then, as a practical problem—is simply this: How can a young man, in addition to the general culture to which he may aspire, attain such training in the elements of this professional knowledge as will entitle him to a cordial reception as a paid draughtsman in an Architect's office?

The practical answer to these questions is two-fold. There are two courses that a young man may pursue to this end: he may enter an office as a pupil, or he may enter a school of art or science as an architectural student. The office-training has the advantage in point of pertinence, it being an exact training for office work; but it is almost necessarily deficient in breadth and system. A young man trained in this way is taught the use of his instruments, and soon acquires the handiness needful for the kind of work he is set to do; but he has no opportunity to learn to draw except with his "T" square, and for the history and principles of his own art or of art in general he must depend upon his own enterprise and such resources as he can, out of hours, command. An intelligent fellow may, in this way, learn a good deal, but it can not be said that he is taught much. It has been proposed, and has of late been urged in England—where the problem of professional education is receiving much attention—that the numerous educational appliances already existing, in the shape of isolated courses of history, construction, crayon drawing, water colors, etc., should be made use of to supply the deficiency of training, and that if students and draughtsmen will not attend the evening courses, which it appears they do not, time should be allowed for the articled pupils, at least, to profit by these opportunities in the day time. But it would seem hardly to require argument or the test of experiment to show that this demand is unreasonable, and impossible to be met. On whatever terms a pupil may be received in an office he can not, in the conduct of office work, be distinguished from the draughtsmen and assistants. The work given to him is as necessary to be done as that given to them, and he, no more than they, can be sent off in the middle of the day to improve his mind.

This scheme is probably as impracticable from the pupil's point of view as from the masters. The attitude of an office pupil is essentially that of a workman, not that of a student, and it is practically incompatible with that of a student. Except in rare cases, a young man can not live both lives at the same time. The two interests are different, and are mutually exclusive. Each pursuit is an interruption and an impertinence to the other. When the office is closed, a young man feels, and has the right to feel, that his day's work is done. He may go on and follow out some line of thought his day's work has suggested, with pleasure and profit, or he may, with equal profit and pleasure, give his leisure to diversions more or less related to his work; but to ask him to take up the new and different work of systematic education, and to pursue it efficiently and to advantage, through a term of years, is expecting too much.

But whether it is or is not accompanied by auxiliary instruction outside, office instruction is coming to be regarded, both in this country and in England, as a necessary, but it is hoped, a temporary evil, and, while Architects are growing more and more unwilling to take in green hands on any terms, they are looking anxiously, as the past records of this Institute abundantly testify, for the establishment of some such stated means of professional culture as have long since, upon the Continent, performed this part.

The profession has, accordingly, reason to welcome the establishment, in so conspicuous a position as the Cornell University, of a course of Architectural instruction in the hands of one of the Honorary Members of the Institute. It is understood that in Massachusetts, the Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science, which, as a school of applied science, has vindicated for itself a more than respectable position, is about to add an efficient course of instruction in Architecture and Design to its present facilities. The Polytechnic Institute of Philadelphia, also, now offers, among its scientific courses, a course of architectural study, under the care of a competent instructor, and at the moment of preparing this paper, information is received that the New York Chapter of the Institute now proposes, by means of its School, Library and Lectures, to impart a knowledge of Architecture to its students. The appliances of instruction in the Architectural Department of the Institute of Technology are before the Convention, and some idea of the kind and quality of the work done by the students may be gained from such specimens of last year's work as it has been found practicable to get together.

The problem presented in these schools is substantially a novel one, and the different solutions it may receive will be watched with interest. Their first task is apparently to organize such a course of preliminary instruction as will enable those who desire to do so, to attain positions in offices. It will probably be found that the more complete their school discipline, the better places they will be able to command; so that the length of time spent by this class of pupils in the schools is likely to be gradually extended, and the standard of instruction to be raised in proportion. For students, of whom there must always be a large class, who propose to prosecute their late studies abroad, the same preliminary training would probably suffice. It is to be hoped that in time the character and extent of the work done by these schools may become such that the necessity of going abroad for purposes of study merely, will be less felt. Meanwhile a thoroughly digested scheme of native study—native to the soil, and suited to our special wants—will probably be developed, and be moulded into the most efficient shape by the process of variation and natural selection of constant trials and occasional successes, to which all the best and most permanent work owes its form.

In this work the Institute is in a position to play a most useful part, not only by fostering the schools that may be established in the vicinity of the different Chapters—as the Boston Chapter has already done—by establishing prizes in the Institute of Technology, but as it has charged the Committee on Education to do, by collecting and disseminating information in regard to Architectural education, and undertaking such measures as

5th Annual Convention

The Tables referred to in Mr. Sturgis' Paper on Terra-Cotta will be forwarded hereafter, as soon as received from England.

demand is correspondingly [illegible] in whatever terms it might may be [illegible] efforts can not, in the [illegible] distinguished from the [illegible] The work given to him as an [illegible] as that given to those [illegible] can be made of it [illegible] his own.

This scheme [illegible] the pupil's point of [illegible] The [illegible]

[illegible] Institute of Technology, [illegible] now offers, among [illegible] course of architectural [illegible] instruction; [illegible] has been infor- [illegible] New York Chapter of [illegible] the School, [illegible] knowledge of [illegible] appliances of the [illegible] of the [illegible] Technology [illegible] of the kind [illegible] of the work [illegible] year's [illegible] found.

[illegible]

The profession [illegible] tion at the Cornell University [illegible] of archi- tectural instruction in the [illegible] Honorary Members of the Institute [illegible] stood that in Massachusetts the Worcester [illegible] Free Institute of Industrial Science [illegible] school of applied science, has [illegible] more than respectable position [illegible] efficient course of instruction in [illegible] Design to its present facilities. The Polytechnic [illegible]

[illegible] has added to [illegible] Chapter [illegible] of Technology [illegible] the Com- [illegible] Education [illegible] and dis- [illegible] information [illegible] to Architectural [illegible] and [illegible] such measures as may tend to the cultivation and diffusion of Architectural knowledge. The want of educational institutions for which and among which the Committee might find a field of labor, has prevented its entering very actively upon its functions. Henceforward, however, in and among the five schools now established it will not want for work. Another Annual Convention will show what it has been able to accomplish.

WM. R. WARE,
THOS. U. WALTER,
JOHN McARTHUR, Jr.,
SAMUEL SLOAN,
GEO. W. HEWITT.

The Chairman:—The Report of the New York Chapter is next in order.

Mr. A. J. Bloor, Secretary of the New York Chapter, then read the following Report:

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK CHAPTER.

New York, *1st November*, 1871.

P. B. Wight, Esq.,
Secretary American Institute of Architects:

Dear Sir,—I herewith transmit to you for the information of the Institute, the following report of the transactions of the New York Chapter during the official year 1870-71, and for such of the current year as has transpired.

Beyond its routine business the main efforts of the Chapter have been directed, through its Standing Committee on Education—appointed the previous year—toward the fulfillment of its duties in regard to the professional education of its junior members and the enlightenment of the public in its specialty.

The Committee, with the assistance of Mr. McLane, not then a member of it, but now its Chairman, carried out last spring an experimental course of twenty (20) lectures, ten (10) by Mr. Wight, on the history and æsthetics of architecture, and ten (10) by Mr. R. G. Hatfield, on construction. All were delivered in the Chapter Rooms, except the last one by Mr. Wight, which took place in the public hall attached to Chancellor Crosby's church. It was illustrated by photographs and a stereopticon, the extra expenses being defrayed by a member of the Chapter, Mr. Kendall. Probably few members of the Chapter were sanguine enough to expect what, from a commercial point of view, would be considered a profitable opportunity, in the opening series of experimental lectures on a subject so recondite to the multitude as architecture; but the committee found it necessary to set a price on admission to the lectures to all hearers but the junior members; and, on the whole, the success of the course surpassed their expectations even in a pecuniary regard; while, comparing the steady attendance of from one to two dozen students at the lectures throughout, and of some two hundred persons at the public lecture, with the very scant attendance—sometimes, indeed, the absolute non-attendance—at the courses of lectures on exceptional subjects given at Harvard College during the same season, and considering the ignorance still current—though somewhat less so than formerly—in the community, on architecture as an art, the results, from an educational standpoint, cannot fairly be deemed otherwise than very satisfactory. Mr. Wight's lectures were illustrated by photographs and by bold drawings of his own execution, while Mr. Hatfield resorted chiefly to wooden models and other appliances, and to diagrams and calcule on the blackboard. The readiness with which some of the junior members and other students responded to his impromptu questions, and the aptness and clearness of their written replies to his more formal ones, were subjects of remark. It is thus obvious that the Chapter is not disposed to neglect its educational and missionary functions, and the profession will hardly fail to recognize the reactionary influence, in their own interest, which lectures, particularly public ones, on their specialty, must exert in the community which sustains them. The Chapter has also, through this Committee, at the invitation of the institution in New York, founded in the interests of the popularization of art and science by the venerable Peter Cooper, entered into such relations with that organization as will ensure a more complete supervision of its classes in drawing, preparatory to the study of rudimentary architecture. The annual report of this Committee to the Chapter shows its opinion to be that the prestige of the Institute directly, either in its federal capacity, or through its local organizations, should be necessary to the issue of possible diplomas to practising architects or candidates for practice, whatever educational bodies outside of the Chapter, but having relations with it, may think proper to do in the way of issuing diplomas to draughtsmen.

But few additional books have been acquired by the library of the Chapter during the past year, the principal being a complete set, up to 1871, of the well-known periodical, the "Gewerbehalle," partly in German, but the later volumes in its English rendering as "The Workshop." As regards photographs, however, the library has been largely enriched by the acquisition of a lot of three hundred and five (305), consisting of architectural views in the various countries of Europe and in Egypt. For the better inspection of these valuable illustrations, the President of the Chapter, Mr. Hatfield, made a donation to the library of the costly optical instrument known as the megalethoscope. The number of tickets of admission to the library now issued reaches seventy-five (75), and scarcely an evening has passed, during the year, in which our shelves have not been sought by the parties, chiefly architectural draughtsmen and students, and young men employed in the industrial arts connected with architecture, who hold in these tickets the right to admission.

During the year now reported, the legislature of the State of New York, transferred to the Chapter the power to examine and report on unsafe buildings in the city of New York—an authority theretofore vested by law in the Committee on Examinations of the Institute—and a new Standing Committee on Examinations was therefore added to the Chapter at its election last month. During this year, too, the Secretary has been instructed to keep a register of architectural draughtsmen out of employment and of employers wanting draughtsmen, giving information thereof to each, as needful and convenient. The Secretary has likewise recently issued a circular to persons connected with the various branches of the building and furnishing interest, asking them for donations of samples of their specialities toward a Museum of Building Appliances.

At the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Chapter, held on the 10th of last month, the President, after speaking of the work accomplished during the preceding year, went on to say, in relation to the work to be done, that the duty of the senior members of the Chapter lay in the fulfillment of three requirements, one having relation to dollars and cents, another to fellowship, and the third to the education of the young. The fulfillment of the financial obligations of its members to the Society was, of course, absolutely essential to its conduct and success, but to most members it was a matter of easy accomplishment, involving no labor or sacrifice worth mentioning, and therefore by no means discharged them from their full responsibilities. There was much more to be done. Time and influence should be given to the concourse of the present fellowship, and to the acquisition of additional membership. Members should not forego a regular attendance at the stated meetings, simply because most of the hard work was quietly done in the Committees. Before the establishment of the Institute, in 1857, the members of the profession were in general personally unknown to or distrustful of, or even inimical to each other; but since then all this had changed. Within the organization mutual appreciativeness and helpfulness were now the rule, the older members cheerfully giving the younger ones the results of their experience in practice, and the great public outside, as well as, and of course far more than the necessarily limited profession inside were benefitted by this understanding: Fellowship should be cemented by more frequent contact, and extended by greater individual effort. He thought sensational attractions at the meetings of small consequence compared to the opportunity afforded at them for the personal contact of the different members and the unreserved interchange of views and experience on current topics and improvements connected with the various branches of the building art. He believed that if members would bring to the Chapter meetings, as guests their acquaintance among the constantly-lessening number of architects of reputation still outside of the Society, the latter would not long wish to remain outside. As to the third point, the matter of education for the junior members, the reports of the Committees on Education and the Library about to be read, would illustrate in detail what had already been accomplished in the way of books, lectures, &c. It would thus be seen, the speaker concluded, that the Chapter is solidly and steadily growing in usefulness and influence, while its older members are building up a substantial and honorable future for the juniors, who in the course of nature will soon take their place. As to the possibilities of that future, nothing is too great for united and persistent effort. All work must be done by individuals, and, even when isolated, faithful effort may accomplish much, but nothing in comparison with the results consequent on judicious combination. It is the multitude of waves, one following the other, that at last wears away the chalk cliffs; it is the often repeated revolution of the small drill that finally throws down miles of rock.

At the same meeting it appeared that several of the most prominent collegiate institutions of the City and State had, during the previous year, opened communication with the Chapter, on the subject of cöalescence with its library and educational appliances. The subject remains in abeyance.

The Chapter proposes to hold its usual exhibition of the work of members during the current year, but it was thought best to defer it till after the present meeting of the Institute.

At this commencement of the current official year, the membership of the Chapter numbers eighty-three (83) persons, viz., twenty-nine (29) Honorary members—one, Mr. H. G. Marquand,—in Perpetuity, and the others for Life; thirty-eight (38) Practising members and sixteen (16) Juniors (the membership of the last grade having nearly doubled since our last meeting); and there are seven (7) candidates whose applications are under consideration. From certain indications, the substance of which results from a recognition of the educational forces now successfully set afloat by the Chapter, it is safe to predict that there will be a large further increase of candidates for Junior membership in the district of the New York Chapter during the coming year; and I, for one, am confident that the same causes will, before many recurrences of the Institute Convention, have so largely operated in increasing the Student membership of the Chapter (as likewise, it is to be hoped, of all the others within the Institute) that it will doubtless be generally felt that the organization is in a fair way of attaining one of the most important of its objects—that of exerting a remedial and exemplarly influence upon the student element now so largely molded—or left unmolded—by incompetency or inadequacy; thus training up the rising generation of aspirants for architectural honors and candidates for practice in the many-sided building art, in the professional and commercial way they should go. If the Institute, through its local organizations, thus qualifies itself in the public estimation, as educator in its specialty, there would seem to be no reason why it should not, if thought best, present its claims, in the system of public instruction, on national and state appliances, for carrying out to maximum success its beneficent public aims, as there certainly can be no doubt that, if once demanded by the public for such object, those appliances would necessarily be forthcoming. For, if the masses and their representatives cannot always appreciate the claims of high art in architecture, if they cannot always analyze the mass and fix upon the points which make of a harmonious isolated building or of a well developed façade, like every other "thing of beauty, a joy forever"—or at least (if, considering the mutable surface of our planet, it is better to express ourselves mathematically) a joy as long it lasts;—and what other work of art—unless it be a poem, the key-note of which is struck to suit the ear of the succeeding ages as well as, or better than, its own—what other work of art endures like that which is built by the hand of the workman out of the brain of architect, in granite or marble?—and perhaps, in the future (despite Ruskin) in iron used as iron;—if they cannot do this, they will not, at least, turn away from mathematical demonstrations proving that generation after generation may suffer grievously from the crude bad plan of a town or village in its streets and houses and drains and sewers; and that destruction, surpassing that of the ancient cities of the plain, may fall, with fiery shafts, on a modern city of the prairie, if the narrow provincialisms of mechanical handicraft and the short-sighted selfishness of commercial speculation be not guided and tempered by the judicial and benign authority of thoroughly and broadly educated experts.

Respectfully,

A. J. BLOOR,

Secretary New York Chapter, A. I. A.,

925 Broadway, New York.

The CHAIRMAN:—The Report of the Philadelphia Chapter.

The SECRETARY:—I have received the following Report of the Philadelphia Chapter:

REPORT OF THE PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER.

To the American Institute of Architects:

The Philadelphia Chapter is now in the beginning of its third year, and we beg leave to present its Annual Report to the Institute.

Since the last Convention fourteen meetings have been held, all of which have been well attended.

At the last meeting before the summer recess certain amendments to the By-Laws were discussed and adopted; these being based upon past experience, are intended to render the Chapter more popular, and, therefore, more useful; to throw the doors of the Chapter more widely open, in the hope of drawing in more outsiders, amateurs, and others, and thus to render the Chapter more of an Architectural Society or Art Club. As yet it is impossible to tell how far these concessions will meet the desired end, but the best results are hoped for.

It is the duty of an association of this sort to educate the people so that they may distinguish and admire the good and beautiful in Architecture, and shun and despise the bad.

It is hoped that, as time rolls on, the effect of the work of the Chapter may be felt, and that the regular criticism of the press will not be, as at present, on good, bad and indifferent work, "that it is an ornament to the city," but that the public generally will distinguish good Architecture, and know why they so distinguish it.

During the year the Chapter has been called upon to mourn the loss of two of its members, Mr. Reuben H. Peterson, Associate of the Institute, and Mr. Alexander Ferguson, Junior member of the Chapter. They were both estimable men, and passed away within a few days of each other.

The Library Room has been open every evening during the winter, and a number of valuable books have been purchased, and others deposited on loan by the members. The English and other periodicals are also received.

At the Annual Meeting, held October 9th, 1871, the following officers were chosen:

THOMAS U. WALTER, LL.D. . *President.*
JOHN MCARTHUR, Jr. . . . . *Vice-President.*
FREDERICK G. THORN . . . . *Secretary.*
CHARLES M. BURNS, Jr. . . . . . *Treasurer.*
JAMES P. SIMS . . . . *Librarian.*

Executive Committee.

The PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, and TREASURER,
Mr. MCARTHUR, | Mr. FURNESS.

Committee on Admissions.

The PRESIDENT and SECRETARY,
Mr. SIMS, | Mr. JONES.

Committee on Library.

The PRESIDENT and LIBRARIAN,
Mr. HEWITT, | Mr. BUTTON,
Mr. ANDREWS.

Committee on Education.

The PRESIDENT and SECRETARY,
Mr. SIMS, | Mr. STEWART,
Mr. PEARSON.

The members of the Chapter to this date are as follows:

Professional Members.

1. John McArthur,
2. John Fraser,
3. Frank Furness,
4. Geo. W. Hewitt,
5. Henry A. Sims,
6. Wm. S. Andrews,
7. Chas. M. Burns, Jr.,
8. Geo. Summers,
9. James C. Sidney,
10. Thos. U. Walter,
11. Stephen D. Button,
12. Frederick G. Thorn,
13. John Stewart,
14. Alonzo B. Jones.
15. Joseph M. Wilson.

Non-Professional Members.

1. Robert Nelson Clark,
2. Wm. Struthers.

Junior Members.

1. Jesse L. Ferguson,
2. Wm. D. Hewitt,
3. Paul Beck,
4. Eugene Costello,
5. Thos. R. Williamson,
6. James P. Sims,
7. Geo. T. Pearson,
8. Samuel Mulligan,
9. Allan Evans,
10. Joseph D. Austin,
11. Willis G. Hale.

Honorary Member.

Henry C. Gibson.

In conclusion, we cordially express the hope that the ensuing year may be one of marked success to the Institute and to all our sister Chapters.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

FRED. G. THORN,
Secretary.

The Chairman:—The Chicago Chapter will report.

The Secretary read the Report of the Chicago Chapter:

REPORT OF CHICAGO CHAPTER.

Chicago, Nov. 2d, 1871.

P. B. Wight, Esq.,
Sec. American Institute of Architects:

I have the honor to inform you that the old officers of Chicago Chapter, A. I. A. continue in office for the ensuing year.

W. W. Boyington...... *President.*
J. C. Cochrane........ *Vice-President.*
Sanford Loring....... *Treasurer.*
W. H. Drake.......... *Secretary.*

Our membership remains the same. Although there has been no increase in numbers, the mere existence of this Chapter has not been without good effect. It frequently occurs that members of the profession, outside of the Institute, quote the rules that govern us. This indirect influence is extending, and will doubtless yield good results in the near future.

There are about sixty Architects practising in this city, with little or no uniformity as to the general rules and regulations that control members of the A. I. A. Moreover, there is much incongruity of style, and a lack of working by rule in construction, and but very little friendly criticism.

To overcome these obstacles to the advancement of the best interests of the profession in particular, and of good taste and sound science in building in general, it is considered of the first importance that a better acquaintance with each other should be cultivated. To this end, it is intended to have a general place of resort, with Library and Reading Room. The present time is well suited for forming the nucleus of a permanent and public good.

The enclosed resolution, passed by the Chapter, will explain.

Yours, very respectfully,
W. H. DRAKE.

Resolution.

Whereas, The Architectural Profession of Chicago, now more than ever, realize the need of a Library for general reference, and there being no such library in this city, and all the private Libraries of Architects, with but one or two exceptions, were destroyed by fire on October 9; and

Whereas, Several of our citizens have volunteered to aid in the establishment of a Library, by sale, gift, or loan of books, &c.;

Be it Resolved, That the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects does hereby signify its willingness to accept, in trust for the use of all Architects, Engineers and their assistants, any books, pamphlets or periodicals, and that this Chapter will, as soon as feasible, provide a suitable Library and Reading Room for the same.

W. H. DRAKE,
Secretary of Chicago Chapter A. I. A.

The Chairman:—The Cincinnati Chapter will report.

The Secretary:—I have received the following from Cincinnati:

REPORT OF CINCINNATI CHAPTER.

Office of the Cincinnati
Chapter Am. Ins. of Architects.
Cincinnati, Oct. 24, 1871.

Mr. P. B. Wight,
Sec. American Institute of Architects:

Dear Sir,—The Cincinnati Chapter is in a prosperous condition.

Fellowship has been promoted, interest in the profession increased, and the membership enlarged.

The several members, in alphabetical order, have prepared and read papers, with the object of furnishing topics of discussion at the Chapter meetings, rather than technical essays.

By this method of selection, there were no exemptions from duty, and each member has contributed to the general interest.

The regular meetings of the Chapter are held in the afternoon, from the fact that a majority of the members are non-residents of the city.

This hour of meeting was found to interfere with the attendance of the Junior members at the regular meetings, and it was determined to try the experiment of night meetings of the Juniors, with such organization from among their own members as was requisite for the proper conduct of their meetings.

The experiment was a decided success, is heartily endorsed, and gives promise of greatly increasing their efficiency.

The programme, in their interest, for the present season, is now in course of preparation by the Committee on Education, and will be carefully considered.

It is earnestly hoped that the national character of the American Institute of Architects may be more fully developed by the formation of Chapters in other western cities; and to this end the members of the Cincinnati Chapter, will be as ready to co-operate in the future as they have been in the past.

Herewith is sent a list of membership at date, and officers for the year 1871–72.

Respectfully submitted,
EDWIN ANDERSON,
Sec. Cin. Chapter A. I. A.

OFFICERS OF THE CINCINNATI CHAPTER A. I. A., FOR THE YEAR 1871–72.

WM. TINSLEY........... *President.*
A. C. NASH............. *Vice-President.*
EDWIN ANDERSON....... *Secretary.*
S. HANNAFORD........... *Treasurer.*

Executive Committee.

WM. TINSLEY........ *Chairman,* } *Ex-officio.*
S. HANNAFORD....... *Treasurer,* }
EDWIN ANDERSON..... *Secretary,* }
JAS. K. WILSON,
ARTHUR BATE.

Committee on Admissions.

JAS. W. MCLAUGHLIN....... *Chairman.*
W. STEWART,
S. W. ROGERS,
EDWIN ANDERSON.......... *Secretary Ex-O.*

Committee on Library and Publications.

A. C. NASH............... *Chairman.*
S. W. ROGERS,
J. W. MCLAUGHLIN,
EDWIN ANDERSON.......... *Secretary Ex-O.*

Committee on Education.

WM. TINSLEY.............. *Chairman.*
JAS. K. WILSON,
ARTHUR BATE,
EDWIN ANDERSON...... ... *Secretary Ex-O.*

Cincinnati Chapter A. I. A.

OCTOBER 1871.

Practicing Members.

Anderson, Edwin,	*Fourth and Elm.*
Bate, Arthur,	*Fourth and Central Avenue.*
Bevis, Henry,	163 *Central Avenue.*
Hannaford, Samuel,	177 *West Fourth Street.*
McLaughlin, Jas. W.,	*Fourth and Walnut.*
Nash, Albert C.,	*Fourth and Central Avenue.*
Rogers, S. W.	*Pike's Opera House.*
Stewart, William,	*Covington, Ky.*
Tinsley, William,	235 *West Fourth.*
Walter, William,	177 *West Fourth.*
Wilson, Jas. K.,	*Fourth and Central Avenue.*

Junior Members,

Buffington, L. S.,
Cahill, Thos. M.,
Cook, Chas. B.,
Crapsey, Chas.,
Proctor, Edwin R.,
Rapp, Geo. W.,
Ruffini, F. Ernst,
Tinsley, Thos. R.,
Williams, Eugene D.

Honorary Members for Life.

Carlisle, John,
Clarke, Robert,
King, Rufus,
Pedretti, F.,

The Chairman:—The Boston Chapter.

The Secretary read the Report of the Boston Chapter, as follows:

REPORT OF THE BOSTON CHAPTER.

Boston, October 30, 1871.

P. B. Wight, Esq.,
Sec. American Institute of Architects:

Dear Sir,—The Secretary of the Boston Society of Architects has the honor to submit herewith his First Annual Report to the Secretary of the Institute, of which the Boston Society has, within the past year, become a Chapter.

The meetings of the Society have been held regularly on the first Friday of each month (with the exception of the summer months), at the architectural rooms of the Institute of Technology. The question whether the Society should resolve itself into a Chapter of the General Association was made the first business of the year, and the vote by which the union was determined, was, after much deliberation, finally passed at the regular meeting, in March last.

The Society having been invited, nearly two years since, by the city government, to prepare a draft of a Building Act for the regulation of buildings within the limits of the city of Boston, has had, during the past year, the satisfaction of seeing the Act prepared by its committee adopted by the city government, and passed by the State Legislature, without essential modification.

Mr. John H. Sturgis has been chosen a Fellow of the Society during the past year, and has signed the constitution.

The Annual Meeting for the choice of officers and other business was held on the 6th inst., at the Parker House. The following officers were elected, viz.:

Edward C. Cabot.............*President*,
H. W. Hartwell..............*Vice-President*.
Wm. G. Preston...............*Treasurer*.
Chs. A. Cummings.............*Secretary*.

Committee on Admissions.

C. E. Parker, | Louis Weissbein,
Chs. Brigham.

A list of the members of the Society is inclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
CHS. A. CUMMINGS,
Secretary B. C. A. I. A.

Fellows.

Nathaniel J. Bradlee,
Joseph E. Billings,
Hammat Billings,
Charles Brigham,
Edwd. C. Cabot,
Geo. R. Clarke,
Theo. E. Colburn,
Chs. A. Cummings,
Benj. F. Dwight,
Morris Dorr,
Alex. R. Estey,
H. Floyd Faulkner,
Chs. Follen,
Hy. W. Hartwell,
Edwd. D. Harris,
W. P. P. Longfellow,
Francis L. Lee,
A. C. Martin,
Fred. H. Moore,
Chs. E. Parker,
Wm. G. Preston,
J. H. Rand,
Calvin Ryder,
W. T. Sears,
S. J. F. Thayer,
A. E. Swasey,
John H. Sturgis,
Henry Van Brunt,
Wm. R. Ware,
S. T. Woodcock,
Louis Weissbein.

Associates.

B. H. Brooks,
John A. Fox,
L. S. Ipsen,
R. P. Wait.

The Chairman:—The next in order is the Baltimore Chapter.

The Secretary read the Report of the Baltimore Chapter, as follows:

REPORT OF THE BALTIMORE CHAPTER.

Baltimore, Oct. 24, 1871.

Mr. P. B. Wight,
Sec. American Institute of Architects:

Sir,—In accordance with the requirements of By-Laws of the Institute, I have the honor to submit herewith a brief report of the proceedings of the "Baltimore Chapter" for the year ending October 1st, 1871.

The Chapter was organized on the 10th day of December, 1870, and recognized as such by the proper authorities of the Institute on the 13th of January, 1871.

As the organization, at its commencement, embraced *all* the "practicing" Architects doing business in Baltimore, we have, necessarily, no additions to our numbers to chronicle.

The regular semi-monthly meetings, as per By-Laws, have been well attended, and much general interest has been manifested by the members, while the good effect of our Association has been perceived and admitted by our members, both in its operation on ourselves and the public; yet being so recently called to act together, and in a manner hitherto novel to us all, we have, as we think might have been expected, no very interesting special proceedings to report to the Institute.

Soon after our first general meeting for the purpose of organization, it was determined to be advisable to admit "Civil Engineers" to association with us, in our purely local affairs, under the style of "Non-professional" members, and we have accordingly on our list the names of some of our most prominent practitioners in that branch, who add very much to our strength in the estimation of the public. They find it advantageous to join us, from the fact that no purely engineering association exists here, and we derive equal, if not greater advantages from their varied experiences in "construction."

We have secured for our use a very eligible room, centrally located, which has been comfortably fitted and furnished. As yet we have not attempted to invite the public to our rooms or meetings, but we expect to do so during the year just commencing. We also expect, during November, to offer to the public an exhibition of drawings of executed works by our members.

Our efforts in the direction of a Library have been, so far, confined to the formation of a "Reading Room," supplied with all the American and English Professional Magazines, and one or two others. We have now on our files

The Architect,
Van Nostrand's Eclectic,
Workshop,
Manufacturer and Builder,
Technologist,

and are daily expecting a French and a German periodical.

The Chapter has received donations of pictures, photographs, &c., from several of its members, as well as several books on technical subjects.

A Museum of "Constructive Appliances" is in contemplation.

The following is a list of members on October 1st.

J. C. NEILSON........	*(Fellow)*	*President.*
E. G. LIND	"	*1st Vice-President.*
THOS. DIXON.........	"	*2d Vice-President.*
N. H. HUTTON.......	"	*Secretary.*
JOHN ELLICOTT......	*(Associate A. I. A.)*	*Treas.*

Executive Committee.

G. A. FREDERICK.....	*Associate A. I. A.*
B. PRICE...........	" "

J. R. NIERNSÉE......	*Fellow.*
R. S. ANDREWS......	*Associate A. I. A.*
JOHN MURDOCH......	*Fellow.*
E. F. BALDWIN......	*Associate A. I. A.*
HY. BRAUNS.........	" "
C. E. CASSELL.......	" "
F. E. DAVIS.........	" "
J. C. WRENSHALL....	" "
J. C. GOTT..........	" "
JOHN WILKINSON....	" "
NORVAL WALL.......	*Junior Member.*
B. B. OWENS.... ...	" "
FREDK. KEES........	" "

Non-Professional.

Wendall Ballman................	*Civil Engineer.*
Chs. Latrobe....................	" "
C. P. Manning....	" "
R. K. Martin....................	" "
R. L. Poor	" "
J. L. Randolph..................	" "
W. E. Webber...................	" "

Honorary Members.

Geo. S. Brown,
W. H. Graham,
W. F. Burns,
John Duer,
Ambrose Emery,
Geo. P. Frick,
Wm. Minifie,
A. H. Russell,
W. E. Wood,
Chs. Wood.

Respectfully submitted,

N. H. HUTTON,
Secretary.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BALTIMORE CHAPTER A. I. A.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 25, 1871.

Mr. P. B. WIGHT,
Sec. American Institute of Architects:

DEAR SIR,—I have the honor to inform you that at a meeting of the Chapter, held on the second Monday in October, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

E. G. LIND	*President.*
THOS. DIXON	1*st. Vice-President.*
J. C. NEILSON	2*d* “
N. H. HUTTON	*Sec. and Treas.*
C. E. CASSELL	*Memb. Ex. Com.*
JNO. MURDOCH	“ “

Respectfully &c.,

N. H. HUTTON,
Sec. Balt. Chapter A. I. A.

The CHAIRMAN:—The Annual Report of the Secretary for Foreign Correspondence.

Mr. HENRY A. SIMS, Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, read the following Report:

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

At the last Annual Meeting it was the expressed wish of the Institute that I should take charge of the portfolio of Foreign Correspondence. I beg leave, therefore, now to report my official acts for the year past. The Institute has so lately assumed a national position, that my predecessor, Mr. Ware, was enabled only to commence the establishment of friendly relations with foreign art societies when it was thought desirable to transfer him to other duties.

My efforts during the year have been mainly directed to extending our correspondence, and in the furtherance of this end, I have addressed myself to the following societies, viz:

June 29. The Institute of Portuguese Architects.
“ 30. The Architectural Institute of Scotland.
“ “ The Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland.
July 20. The Architects' Union of Berlin.
“ “ The Architectural Union of Hamburg.
July 21. The Austrian Engineers' and Architects' Union of Vienna.
“ “ The Imperial Academy of St. Petersburgh.
“ 22. The Archæological Society of Athens, through Mr. Robert P. Keep, U. S. Consul.
“ “ The Architects' and Engineers' Union of Hanover.
“ 26. The Architects' and Engineers' Union of Breslau.
Oct. 2. The Central Society of Architects of Paris.
“ 13. The Society of Architects of the Department of the North, at Lille.

In the circular letter which I addressed to these societies, I gave a brief account of the organization of this Institute and its national character, and, besides the interchange of publications, I suggested the propriety of Architectural Societies interchanging photographic views of meritorious works erected by their members as the readiest means of promoting the general cause of our art, by a more perfect understanding of what is being done in other countries.

At the last Convention a resolution was adopted, suggesting to the Board of Trustees the appointment of a committee of competent gentlemen with which the Secretary may advise, from time to time, as he finds it necessary. The year's experience of the duties of the office induces me to believe that it is desirable that this resolution be carried into effect. The difficulties of instituting such a correspondence are very great. The distance which separates us from foreign societies necessarily confines our intercourse entirely to letters, and prevents our enjoying that knowledge of their organization and internal working which we would have if we were nearer to them, and our members more frequently visited the cities where they have their seats. English societies, for instance, have this great advantage in their intercourse with societies on the Continent. I do not think that it is advisable that the responsibility of the selection of the foreign societies with which this Institute invites a correspondence should rest with the Secretary alone. The leaning caused by his individual training might induce him to give too great prominence to the societies of one division or one language of Europe than would be equitable, considering the many nationalities represented by our members. In the matter of the more formal letters and circulars which had to be issued on several occasions, I felt that it was desirable that others should be consulted before I committed this Institute to foreign societies by enunciating ideas and sentiments which, perhaps, were too much biased by my individual convictions to be acceptable to the American profession at large, which I represented.

Circumstances prevented my sending out the circulars above enumerated as early in the year as I should have liked, and I can at this time report replies from only a few of them.

Herr Bœckman replied, under date of the 7th August, for the Berlin Union, of which he is Vice-President, sending the publications of the year, and saying that he would "gladly assist in weaving a band which should draw more closely the Berlin Union of Architects and the American Institute of Architects, and that he was sure that in saying this he was only giving expression to the Berlinese brethren in art." Some of our publications have since been sent to the proper address in Berlin.

The Chevalier da Silva writes from Lisbon, 16th August, for the Institute of Portuguese Architects, of which he is President, accepting our invitation to be on terms of amity and correspondence with that body, and informing me he hoped that the new Portuguese minister, who was then expected to sail for this country in a few days, would bring us some photographs of all the principal buildings in Portugal, together with some printed documents. That Institute was about collecting data for the art history of each of the important buildings of the country, and steps had already been taken to that end.

Mr. Robert P. Keep, U. S. Consul at the Piraeus, in Greece, whom I addressed with reference to the Archæological Society of Athens, replied from Athens, under date of the 29th September, that at the first meeting of the society, of which he is a member, he would present our request to be in correspondence. This society publishes, at irregular intervals, an archæological newspaper, in Greek, illustrated with lithographic plates, and which is valuable for preservation. If possible a file of this journal will be sent to us.

Herr Friese, Secretary of the Austrian Engineers' and Architects' Union, replies from Vienna, under date of the 10th October, saying that that association accepts, with great pleasure, our invitation to be in correspondence. A package of publications would be sent to us immediately, and the association would use its best endeavors to furnish us with photographs of buildings in Austria. Herr Friese asks for his association a little indulgence in this matter, as the photographs would have to be obtained from the individual architects.

An unfortunate misunderstanding in the Royal Institute of British Architects, early in the year, caused the loss to that society of the services of Professor Donaldson, who for six and thirty years had conducted its foreign correspondence. At the request of my colleague, Mr. Wight, I addressed Professor Donaldson on the 22d March, relative to surveyors' charges in England, the information being required in connection with the new State Capital of Illinois. My letter was written after Professor Donaldson had retired from office, but before the news of it had reached this country. He, however, replied under date of the 12th of April, giving me the desired information, which I duly sent to Mr. Wight, and by him it was forwarded to Chicago, where it was required.

The office of Foreign Correspondent in the British Institute was vacant from the date of Professor Donaldson's resignation, in February, until the annual meeting in May, when Mr. Frederick P. Cockerell was chosen to fill the post. I addressed him at some length on the 27th June, but as it was after his Institute had gone into summer recess, I have not yet received his reply.

In January, at the request of my colleague, I addressed the several honorary members then elected, to wit: Mr. William Burges, Professor Donaldson, Mr. George Godwin, the Rt. Hon. Mr. Layard, Mr. J. A. Picton, Mr. John Ruskin, Mr. J. B. Waring, Sir M. Digby Wyatt, and Mr. T. H. Wyatt, and, in September, M. César Daly.

Sir Digby Wyatt replied on the 6th February, requesting me to assure the Institute that he highly appreciated the honor done him, and hoped that the Institute would receive the assurances of his sympathy with its objects, and his desire for the advancement of our art on both sides of the Atlantic.

Professor Donaldson writes, on the 28th February, thanking the Institute for the honor conferred upon him by his transatlantic brethren.

Mr. Waring, on the 28th February, thanks the Institute, and requests me to convey to the members the feelings of brotherly respect and good will which he bears them, and to say that he longs for the day when the United States and Great Britain will regard each other as little else than portions of one country, inhabited by people who have only the welfare and happiness of all their fellow creatures at heart.

Mr. Picton, on the 1st March, writes, thanking the Institute, and adds, that should he ever have the opportunity of visiting the United States, he would feel that he did not come as a stranger, but as a recognized professional brother, and whether such an opportunity should occur or not, that it will always give him pleasure to welcome to those shores any member of the profession whom circumstances might lead across the Atlantic.

The Rt. Hon. Mr. Layard writes, on the 2d March, from Madrid, where he is the British Minister, that he fully appreciates the honor conferred upon him, and that it will give him much pleasure if at any time he can be of use to the Institute.

Mr. Burges, on the 4th March, writes to my colleague, thanking the Institute.

Mr. Godwin, on the 10th March, bids me say that this recognition of him on the part of the Institute affords him extreme gratification; that he will watch its proceedings with increased interest, and gladly take such opportunities as may present themselves to assist in rendering those proceedings known in Europe. He expresses his earnest wish for the prosperity of the Institute, and for the most intimate union between the two countries.

Mr. Ruskin and Mr. T. H. Wyatt have, I believe, never replied.

M. Daly writes, on the 16th October, acknowledging the gratitude he feels at the honor bestowed upon him. During the three years' trip which he made in America, in 1855–6–7, he learned to love and deeply respect the bold, energetic people of the United States.

But a few weeks before he wrote, he had prepared and published in his *Revue d'Architecture* an article on the subject of our Institute. He is so favorably impressed with our system of organization, combining such perfect local liberty with such a powerful common tie, that he had warmly recommended its study to the *Société Centrale des Architectes de Paris.* M. Daly adds that a copy of the *Revue* containing the article upon the Institute, and a work of his just issued on the funeral architecture of France would be sent to us.

My predecessor suggested to me the desirability of addressing a circular to our foreign honorary members, briefly recounting the history of the Institute, the changes through which it had passed, and describing its present organization. Especially was this information important to the elder honorary members, who, having been elected under the former organization, have been continued under the present one. This circular was sent out in June, and was as follows:

"Within the past four years certain modifications and alterations have been made in the Constitution of this Institute, whereby the organization and, indeed, the whole character of the institution have been materially changed. It has been thought desirable that a circular should be addressed to the foreign honorary members, informing them of this; and especially those gentlemen who, having been elected under the former Constitution, of course continue under the present one.

"It may be well to commence this statement with some mention of the first organization of the Architects of the country. This took place in the city of New York, in the latter part of 1836, under the style of the *American Institution of Architects.* The association aimed at being national in its character, and drew within its folds the practitioners of a number of our cities. Owing, however, to the great distances which separate our cities, and consequently the members, it was soon found impossible to keep up the meetings with any degree of regularity. The association held its second meeting in this city in 1837, and soon after, for the reasons assigned, went quietly to sleep.

"In 1857, the second attempt was made towards associating the architects together. The name of the former organization was retained very nearly, and a few of the former members. The new organization, however, was made upon the different basis of a permanent location in New York. Under this arrangement the former difficulty was overcome, and meetings were held at stated periods, but at the sacrifice of the national character of the association, for it became almost purely local. In the United States all institutions such as this experience a difficulty, growing out of the fact of there being no city of such metropolitan character that all parts of the country look up to it, as England does to London and France to Paris. The reason for this is, not that no one of our cities possesses in itself the proper qualification, but because of the vast extent of territory covered by these United States, and, to a certain extent, because of the division of the country into separate States. We have many cities of large size possessing those characteristics, which in more circumscribed territories would give them the influence of metropolitan cities. Situated as they are, however, they exercise these attributes only over the States or the immediate localities in which they are situated.

"In 1866, the idea was conceived of rendering the Institute more national in its character, by delegating to local societies, or chapters, as they are termed, the duty of drawing together the local architects, and generally forwarding the cause of art, in the cities in which they were formed. These chapters are local architectural societies, admitting to their membership amateurs and patrons of art generally, together with professional architects. The Institute, as the central or parent body, is a society of architects—exercising a superintending care over the chapters, and generally, over the profession throughout the country.

"As soon as the system was arranged, a Chapter was constituted in New York, but nothing further was done until the idea was more matured. This was effected during the latter part of 1868 and early part of 1869. Late in 1869 the Philadelphia Chapter was organized, and still later in the year, that in Chicago. Early in 1870, the Chapter in Cincinnati was instituted. A local society of architects had existed in Boston for several years, and in the latter part of the past year it became a Chapter of the Institute. Early in the present year the Baltimore Chapter was formed. It is hoped that, before the close of the present year, several other cities will be numbered in the list.

"The Institute is composed of Fellows and Associates, all of whom must be professional architects, and honorary members, who are generally distinguished foreign architects, or writers on the art. The controlling power is in the hands of the Fellows. The Institute as a body, meets annually, in November. During the year, the various matters of routine are superintended by the Board of Trustees, which meets monthly. Elections for Fellows and Honorary Members, and in some cases for Associates, are conducted by ballot. Printed tickets are prepared with the names of the candidates for election, and sent by mail to the Fellows, in different parts of the country. 'Yes' or 'No' is written against the names given, and the ballots are returned, under double cover, to the Secretary, and they are opened and counted by the Board of Trustees. The Board meets in New York, and at present the President, Secretary and Treasurer are resident there. The Presidents of the Chapters are ex-officio the Vice-Presidents of the Institute. All the officers of the Institute are honorary, and in all cases are practising architects."

It is my painful duty to announce the death of our late Honorary member, M. Félix Duban, which took place at Bordeaux, in September, 1870, and while Paris was in a state of siege. So highly was he esteemed by his countrymen that a public funeral, or rather re-interment, was accorded to him, which took place in Paris on the 7th of October last. I have received a communication on the subject from the commission in charge of the ceremonies. The following is a translation:

"Paris, October 2, 1871.

"Mr. President of the American
Institute of Architects:

"The General Commission on the funeral and the monument of Felix Duban has the honor to inform you of the death—so much to be regretted—of that eminent artist, whose remains will be conveyed, the 7th of the present month, to the Church of S. Thomas Aquinus, and from there to the Cemetery of Montparnasse (Paris), accompanied by deputations from various societies of architects of France, representatives of the Institute of France, and of the National Administration and of the various academies and societies of Europe of which M. Felix Duban was a member. Orations will be pronounced at the grave, and a monument will be raised to his memory by means of a public subscription. The General Commission thought, Mr. President, that the American Institute of Architects, which has honored M. Duban by conferring upon him the title of *Foreign Honorary Member*, would learn with interest the news of these ceremonies, which honor our art itself in the person of a most illustrious architect. The General Commission charges us to add, Mr. President, how much it regrets that the distance which separates the two countries forbids to it the hope of seeing in our midst during these sad ceremonies, any representatives of our honorable confreres of the United States of America.

"Accept, Mr. President, our warm and fraternal salutations.

"For the Commission,

"H. Labrouste,
"Architect, Member of the Institute, *Pres't.*

"Cesar Daly,
"Architect of the Government, *Secr'y.*"

At another time during the session it will be my duty to offer certain resolutions touching the death of M. Duban.

In conclusion, I must express the hope that another year will see us in actual correspondence with a greater number of our sister societies throughout the world. I am firmly impressed with the importance to us—the Architects of a new country, collected here as a National Art Society—of knowing more perfectly what the architects in older countries are doing. I consider that the suggestion I have pressed upon the societies addressed this year, of interchanging photographic views of works erected or in progress, or of designs yet unexecuted, would, if carried out to any extent, place within our reach a powerful means of educating the public taste, by public exhibitions in each of our large cities, from time to time, of the views thus obtained from abroad. The progress of good architecture in a community depends so much upon the taste and knowledge of the general public to discriminate between the good and the bad, that if the public eye can be reached by exhibiting to it views of the meritorious architecture which is being produced in other countries in connection with what is good in our own—that it cannot but be the clear and manifest duty of this Institute, and of its individual members, to lend every assistance to the scheme.

HENRY A. SIMS,
Secretary for Foreign Correspondence.

Philadelphia, 11th November, 1871.

Mr. Hatfield moved that the Chair appoint five gentlemen as a Nominating Committee on the officers and committees for the ensuing year.

The Chairman appointed the Committee on Nomination as follows: R. M. Hunt, W. R. Ware, Henry Dudley, P. B. Wight, and J. D. Hatch.

The Convention then adjourned until seven o'clock, P. M.

Evening Session.

The Chairman called the meeting to order, and announced that the first business before the Convention was the Report of the Nominating Committee.

Mr. Ware:—The Committee on Nomination present the following names as candidates:

President, Richard Upjohn,
Treasurer, R. G. Hatfield,
Secretary, Carl Pfeiffer.

A motion is already on file to abolish the office of Librarian. The Committee recommend to the Institute to make no nomination to fill that place.

Secretary for Foreign Correspondence.
H. A. Sims.

Board of Trustees, besides the President, Treasurer and Secretary, who are members *ex-officio*:

Henry Dudley,
J. D. Hatch,
D. Lieneau,
A. J. Bloor.

Committee on Library and Publications.

E. T. Littel,	H. M. Congdon,
A. J. Bloor,	H. H. Holly,
Carl Pfeiffer.	

Committee on Education

Wm. R. Ware,	Russell Sturgis, Jr.,
Thomas U. Walter,	N. H. Hutton,
J. W. McLaughlin.	

The Committee considered the question as to how far it was practically necessary that the different Boards should be composed of persons living in the same locality. It was found necessary that, so long as the Board of Trustees consist of so few as seven persons, four being needed for a quorum, that those seven should all be residents of the same town. Within the last year there were only six residents of New York, and it was almost impossible, out of six persons, to find four ready to meet at the required moment. The Board of Trustees, accordingly, was filled up with members from New York. For the same reason it was considered that the Committee on Library and Publications, who need to hold frequent meetings, should be residents of the same locality, and as it would make a greater change in the Committee than would seem expedient, to locate them all at present at any other place, the Committee on Library and Publications was again composed, as it has been the last year, of members of the New York Chapter.

It was considered that the business of the Committee on Education could be done as well by correspondence as by personal intercourse, and five members of this Committee are reported as members from five different cities.

In the same manner, the Committee on Professional Practice, which was constituted at the last Convention, was composed of members from the different parts of the country.

With this list of names, and this explanation, the Committee submit their Report to the action of the Convention.

The President then resigned the chair to Vice-President Hatfield.

The Chairman nominated as tellers of election, Mr. Lane and Mr. Stone.

The election for officers and standing committees was then held by ballot, the following being the result:

President.

RICHARD UPJOHN, New York.

Treasurer.

R. G. HATFIELD, New York.

Secretary.

CARL PFEIFFER, New York.

Secretary for Foreign Correspondence.

HENRY A. SIMS, Philadelphia.

Board of Trustees.

HENRY DUDLEY,	New York,
JOHN D. HATCH,	"
DETLEF LIENAU,	"
A. J. BLOOR,	"

Committee on Education.

WILLIAM R. WARE,	Boston.
THOMAS U. WALTER,	Philadelphia.
RUSSELL STURGIS, Jr.,	New York.
N H. HUTTON,	Baltimore.
J. W. McLAUGHLIN,	Cincinnati.

Committee on Library and Publications.

E. T. LITTELL,	New York.
A. J. BLOOR,	"
HENRY M. CONGDON,	"
H. H. HOLLY,	"
CARL PFEIFFER,	"

The Chairman announced the Reports of Special Committees to be in order, and called for the Report of the Committee on Professional Practice.

Mr. Ware, Chairman of that Committee, then read the following Report:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE.

The Special Committee of five, appointed at the last Annual Convention, "*to compile a pamphlet defining the exact duties and responsibilities of Architects, their relations to each other, to their clients, and to the various parties under their control, and giving definitions and explanations of the Schedule of Charges, and any additions to them* *that may be thought necessary: and to present the result of their deliberations to the next Convention of the Institute: such Report to exhibit what is, rather than what should be, the best practice of the Profession,*" beg leave to report the progress they have made in the work confided to their care, and to invite the further instructions from this Convention in regard to its further prosecution.

The members of the Committee, widely scattered in different cities, have co-operated with the Chairman in endeavoring to ascertain the actual opinions and usages upon matters of Professional Practice prevailing in their sections of the Union. To this end, the Chairman addressed to each member of the Committee a detailed memorandum of the points to which their attention should be directed. The information thus collected, though fragmentary, and largely colored, of course, by their own experience and opinions, has been of service in clearing up the subject and in pointing the way for future labors. At a meeting of the Committee called for the day preceding the assembling of this Convention, and attended by a majority of the members, the results so far obtained were reviewed and discussed, and a plan of future operations agreed upon.

The Committee would propose to prepare, and, with the sanction of the Trustees and of the Committee on Library and Publications, to put into their hands, for publication, three papers, or three parts of a single paper, covering the ground laid out for them, and adapted to the use both of the profession and of the general public, and treating respectively of the relations of architects to each other, to their clients, and to the general public.

It is proposed that the first part, treating of the internal organization of the profession, shall embrace the subject of professional propriety and etiquette, the obligations of comity and the customs of courtesy.

The second part is intended to set forth the business aspect of the profession, defining and explaining the nature and extent of the Architect's work, and his relations and obligations both to his employer and to the mechanics whom he employs, including the question of fees for professional work. Whether the custom of making fees large in proportion as the work becomes expensive, is a defensible custom; whether it is practicable and reasonable for the younger and more inexperienced members of the profession to be paid upon the same scale as their elders or their betters, and whether, in any case, the schedule of fees had not better be a *minimum* rather than a *maximum* scale of charges, are questions constantly asked, to which the Committee propose to do their best to find a satisfactory answer. But the most difficult point under this head is the question of superintendence, to which the Committee propose especially to invite the attention of the Convention. Hardly second in importance is the matter of clerical work, the question of the best forms for contracts, specifications and other papers, written or printed, used in the transaction of business, the best methods of estimating costs, especially for office purposes, and the best way of conducting the administration of other office work. The subject of Forms of Contract has already been confided, by the Philadelphia Convention, to a special committee. On most of the other points this committee has already solicited the assistance of members of the Institute in the collection of memoranda, both written and printed. There is, in these matters a great variety of usage, and a further comparison of opinions and experience would, doubtless, be fertile in serviceable suggestions.

The third paper, discussing the relations of the profession to the public may, it is thought, do good service in setting forth to persons intending to build, and especially to incorporated and municipal bodies, the various modes of procedure in the procuring of professional advice; and the advantages and disadvantages of each. Half the annoyances which make building operations a by-word of vexation and trouble to all concerned, and the occasion of endless intrigue, favoritism and jobbery, arise from the blind and uninstructed way in which they are undertaken. The first step, which is the fatal one, is generally taken in innocence and ignorance. Somebody, before he knows it, commits everybody to something, and regrets begin. What the public needs is a professional adviser from the start, and before the start, and that service, which no individual can perform, the Institute alone is in an attitude to render. In this connection comes up, of course, the almost insoluble problem of competitions; a problem whose satisfactory treatment would perhaps be more advanced by enlightening the mind of the public as to its real nature, than by anything that we can do, on our side, to establish and enforce improved canons of procedure.

Under each of these heads, the committee, while asking further time to prosecute their labors and earnestly soliciting the cooperation by letter of the members of the Institute in every part of the country, beg to submit to the Convention a single point for their consideration.

1. And, first, in respect to competitions. The "Schedule of Terms," recommended by the Philadelphia Convention, has hardly as yet had a long enough trial for us to judge how far it has commended itself to the judgment of the profession and of the public. It would be premature, at this time, to point out any particular provision as having either succeeded or failed in so doing. But among a number of questions which the schedule suggests the committee would like to submit a single one to the consideration of the Convention. It is this: Is it the opinion of those here present that what is known as the Greek rule of choice, instanced in the famous case of the choice of Themistocles, would be a safe and judicious way of awarding the prizes? That is to say, to make the competing architects an advisory jury, each of whom should cast two votes, one, if he thought fit, for his own design, the other for that next in order of merit.

Under the second head, that of business affairs, the committee would like, as has been intimated, to submit to the discussion of the Convention the old question as to what constitutes professional superintendence. On this subject it is plain enough upon the face of things, that a great diversity of practice prevails; the information collected by the committee shows an equally marked, but more unexpected, difference of theory. An eminent New York architect, an especially careful and successful man of business, writes, in answer to the committee's inquiry, that he professes to give *supervision*, not superintendence. "Superintendence is a different thing." Another, his neighbor, says that superintendence and supervision are the same thing. The question opened between these two authorities is one upon which the committee would be glad to be enlightened by any light the Convention may throw upon it.

But after all that can be said, the future prosperity of the profession depends, as its present prosperity depends, not upon the intelligence or good sense of the public, but upon our own; and in like manner it is we, and not the public, that are to blame for what there may be of unsatisfactoriness in our lot. "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars but in ourselves, that we are underlings." It is our own doing, if we are put upon. If we are underpaid and overworked, it is because we are content to do much work for little money. There are two sides even to a bad bargain, and if we are a consenting party to a transaction which we are in the habit of denouncing, we deserve to be a laughing-stock. Competition would not be ruinous, and competitors would not be ruined, if Architects were not ready to underbid each other and engage in ventures, which are, in principle, unsound, as Mr. Kerr has so ably shown in his paper, read last spring before the Architectural Conference in London.

The Schedule of Fees and the Schedule of Terms for Competitions will, however, if they can be generally adopted, settle the question of competitions and fees. The Committee desire to direct attention rather to the root of both evils, which is at the same time the chief hindrance to the adoption of the remedies. It is the childish and barbarous spirit of professional rivalry, at once suicidal and fratricidal, that is our chief enemy; it is this that debauches the conduct of competitions, that corrupts customs and usages, and makes it almost hopeless to expect any remedy to be adopted by general consent, that can ever at any time come in conflict with momentary personal advantage.

But if it is true that it is rather through ignorance and want of thought than from any malicious purpose that the public deal so hardly with the profession, it is even more the case that it is thoughtlessness and ignorance of the real and permanent good in the profession itself rather than malice that has prevented and still prevents a hearty and even generous co-operation in the endeavor after a more wholesome professional life. It is owing to the absence of well-understood and intelligently accepted principles of conduct, and of clearly defined maxims, that the false lights of momentary interest lead men astray. Now, in our own professional relations nothing is defined or clearly understood, and an intercourse with each other is too often that of well-meaning blunders, inflicting the greatest injuries and committing the most unpardonable breaches of manners and morals in utter innocence and ignorance. Hence jealousies, slights, heart-burnings, backbitings, and all manner of uncharitableness. It is just so in business, amateurs in stock-jobbing do things, in a conceit of shrewdness or smartness and under a general notion that all is fair in war. They are the more to blame, for the difference between honest conduct and swindling. The rules of behaviour in these particulars, however ignorant of them we have grown up, were in fact settled long ago. But with us it is not so; the profession is, in a sense, a new one. Its relations are exceedingly complicated and difficult. The distinction between the proprieties and the improprieties is by no means an innate idea; and so it happens that confident in our integrity but quite ignorant of any general principles of conduct and of scruples, we do things for which the terms unprincipled and unscrupulous are a feeble characteristic. These things are not confined to the young or to the viciously inclined. We all, trusting in the absence of any well-established principles of professional conduct, to the rectitude of our purposes, stumble blindly at times into regretted ways. It is by bringing light into such obscurity that professional associations like this find their best work. It is thus that in the medical and legal professions, well understood codes of behavior have been established, that, like the code of manners which regulates the intercourse of daily life, lifts them out of the mere brute struggle for existence into life of intelligent and fraternal cooperation. We are still very much in the barbarous ages. But something may easily be done by a comparison of opinions upon some prominent points to settle the right rule of conduct. It is the uncertainty of the moral law that provokes these sharp criminations, and the very existence of such a code, even if it were difficult and uncertain in its applications, would at least tend to foster the spirit of scrupulousness, that sense of the difficulty of the situation and of the need of care and circumspection, which is the essence of practical morality, the chief safeguard of conduct.

To try, by example, how profitable it may be to enter into the discussion of this class of subjects, your committee would like to hear the opinions of the Convention upon the following proposition, viz.: That an Architect should never volunteer his services, but should always wait to be invited by his client, lest he should entangle his client into giving him work intended for another, and, for the same reason, he should never offer gratuitous service.

In prosecution of this work, your Committee propose to revise the list of questions they have prepared for their own use, and to circulate it among the Chapters of the Institute, asking of the Chapters and of the individual members such expression of opinion upon the points raised as shall enable them to proceed intelligently with the task entrusted to them.

R. M. Hunt,
J. McArthur, Jr.
J. K. Wilson,
Henry Dudley,
Wm. R. Ware.

On motion the Report was accepted and the Committee continued.

The Chairman announced the next business in order to be the consideration of the Reports of Committees.

After some explanatory remarks from the Secretary of the Institute and the Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, Mr. Littell moved, that the Board of Trustees be requested to appoint a committee for Foreign Correspondence, to cooperate with the Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, for the coming year.

The motion was adopted.

The Chairman:—The next point.

The Secretary:—The next matter which was referred to the Board, upon which they report progress, was in relation to the adoption of a form of contract. They are not prepared to offer a form of contract, but have collected data which will lead to the preparation of such a form.

After remarks by the Chair, Mr. Wight moved to refer so much of the Report of the Board of Trustees as related to a form of contract to a special committee of three. After remarks in opposition by Messrs. Fernbach and Littell, Mr. Wight's motion was lost, and the matter was left in the hands of the Board.

The Chairman stated that the Nominating Committee had learned with much regret that Mr. Wight had made such business arrangements in Chicago, that it would be impossible for him to accept a re-election to the Secretaryship.

Mr. Ware:—I have the honor to propose that the thanks of the Convention and of the Institute be presented to Mr. Wight for the excellent and satisfactory manner in which he has discharged the very difficult and laborious duties of the office during the last two years.

The motion was seconded.

Mr. Hatch:—I move as an amendment that that vote of thanks be engrossed, and presented to Mr. Wight.

The motion as amended, was unanimously adopted.

The Chairman:—I would ask the Auditing Committee on the Treasurer's Report, if they are ready?

Mr. McArthur then read the following Report:

Report of the Auditing Committee.

The Auditing Committee having examined the account of the Treasurer, and compared the same with the vouchers presented, certify that they have found the expenditures correct.

John McArthur, Jr.,
Henry Fernbach,
Henry Van Brunt.

The Secretary:—Mr. Littell moves, "That the circular prepared by the Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, and forwarded to the Honorary Members of the Institute, be forwarded to the leading newspapers of the country."

The motion having been seconded, was adopted.

Mr McArthur proposed the following amendment to the By-Laws:

Article VIII, Section 1. To be amended so that it may read: *The Board of Trustees shall consist of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretaries, and the Treasurer, together with four Fellows. It shall meet for the transaction of business at least once in each month, except July and August. Four shall constitute a quorum, etc., etc.*

The amendment was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Hunt, the consideration of other proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws was postponed.

Mr. Sims announced that he had received a notification of the death of Mr. Duban, an Honorary Member of this Institute,

And moved, That this Institute learns with profound regret of the death of its late Honorary Member, M. Felix Duban, member of the Institute of France, etc., and desires to place on record its admiration for him as an Artist, and the feeling that the Art of Architecture suffers deeply by his death; and this Institute learns with satisfaction that M. Duban was so highly esteemed by his countrymen that a public funeral was accorded to him, and that a suitable monument is to be erected to his memory.

This Institute laments the fact that the great distance prevented it from being represented at the ceremony attending his reinterment in Paris, and taking part therein with the many Societies of which M. Duban was an honored member.

The motion having been seconded by Mr. Le Brun, was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Ware, Mr. Wight seconding, it was

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees be requested to hold the next Convention in Cincinnati, if found expedient.

Mr. Sims read a correspondence between a since deceased architect and a building committee, which was ordered to be printed. [See Appendix].

The Chairman:—Mr. Ware, shall we hear from you now, in regard to your Report?

Mr. Ware:—The Committee on Professional Practice consists of Mr. Hunt, of New York; Mr. McArthur, of Philadelphia; Mr. Wilson, of Cincinnati; Mr. Dudley, of New York, and myself. The first question upon which the judgment of the Convention is desired, is whether, in the opinion of those here present, it would be safe and judicious to make the competing architects an advisory jury, each of whom should cast two votes—one if he saw fit, for his own design; the other for that next in order of merit.

I desire to call the attention of the Convention to two points: The first is, that it is not proposed that the competing architects should have the final decision of the question as to the plan to be adopted, entirely in their own hands. The discussions of the committee went far to show, and I think convinced those of the committee present, entirely that the responsibility in such a case rests, and must of necessity rest, with the persons about to build; that the majority of such a Board ought to consist of those responsible persons, and that the only practical question was whether the architectural assistance which such a committee receives should be in the form of advice, or whether such professional service should be attained by adding architects to the jury. The committee were inclined to think that, in any case, the force of professional opinion would be more felt, and be more efficient, if it were given in the shape of advice than if it were brought to the jury by authority; that is to say, that the jury would be more affected by strong professional advice acting outside, than if members of their own body undertook to act. So that in not putting architects on the jury, but leaving them outside to advise, the committee were disposed to think that it would be better to act upon the advice, and especially in the case where the competing architects might be quite numerous, and where, in order to prevent the other members of the committee from being entirely out-voted, they would have to be largely in the majority. For instance, if twenty or thirty architects were competing, it would require a committee of sixty in order to prevent the non-professionals of the committee being entirely swamped. So we thought the professional opinion had better be brought to bear in the way of advice, and the committee were inclined to think that the jury would have to be very strong in their own conceit to resist such a professional judgment as under these circumstances they would receive.

The other point which occasioned some discussion in the committee, was—

The Chairman:—Will you allow me to submit this point first—or will it be necessary to express the next one?

Mr. Ware:—I think it is all one question. It is simply explaining the form of the question. The other principle was that, supposing the advisory judgment of the competing architects was sought, that each architect should have two votes—one for his own design, if he saw fit, and the other for the next in the order of merit. It might seem as if this was exactly the same thing as if everybody had one vote and was not allowed to vote for himself, but the committee thought that it might well happen that an achitect would not prefer his own plan when he came to see the others. I think those who have entered a competition have experienced the satisfaction of finding that two or three of the plans suggested were at least as good as their own, and in that case the committee ought to have the judgment of the architect on the two plans, so that in case the architect really thought his own plan was the best, he would be permitted to vote for it; if he thought his own was not the best, he could vote for two others. That would, in fact, rule out those which, in their judgment, were inferior to others.

With this explanation the committee submit the question to the judgment of the Convention, whether it is well that the professional advice should be tendered to committees in this form. If there is any experience in this country or any other country, of this experiment having been tried, the Committee would be very glad to learn it. It has been often proposed, but so far as we know, has never been put in practice.

The Chairman:—This point is before you. What is your pleasure in regard to it?

Mr. Wight:—Is this proposed as an amendment to the Schedule of Competition adopted last year?

Mr. Ware:—It is proposed simply as a means of enlightening the minds of the committee on the difficult subject which has been committed to them. The committee had this whole question submitted to them. In the discussion, one or two points came up that seemed to them particularly difficult, and which they would like to submit to the discussion of the Convention.

Mr. Wight:—Did the committee consult the Report of the Board of Trustees last year on this very same subject?

Mr. Ware:—I think not. The committee in session did not refer to the Board of Trustees; and in the preparation of the paper, although the Report of the Board of Trustees came in among other things, I do not remember at this moment whether it was the expression of that judgment.

Mr. Wight:—I would like to mention, as throwing light upon this, the reasons which led the Board to present the Report in the form in which they did. The Board quoted the German schedule upon which this Report was based, numbered "1," "2," and "3," as follows: "1. The jury must be principally composed of architects. 2. The jury must be named in the instructions, which they shall have sanctioned before publication. 3. The acceptance of the post of judge requires a complete renunciation of every direct or indirect right to compete, as also of any participation in the execution of the works. As a modification of this, the following article is proposed:"

Then follows the article as it was adopted.

"It is also suggested that the experiment of submitting designs to the competitors themselves, which has frequently been suggested, is worth being tried."

We sought to find if it had been tried, and could not get any record of such an attempt being made. I myself asked the opinion of a number of members of the Institute on this one point, because it had been suggested to me by several. One roguish man said to me, "Suppose there are two or three men who are so crazy that they will vote for themselves—throw one vote for themselves, and throw the other vote for the worst design, because nobody else will vote for it, so that two or three of the worst designs will get quite a number of votes." It struck me at the time as being a terrible objection to that form of proceeding, because in that competition, where there are a great many men, there are a great many of that sort of men who will do anything under the cover of a secret vote, to carry a point for themselves. Supposing that men were all honest and selected the very best in their judgment, the result would probably be a good one, but how can we provide against a result like that before-mentioned? That was the objection made, and therefore it was not recommended; it was merely suggested, thinking that the members might discuss it at this meeting. That led to the adoption of this clause, which provides that the jury shall be equally composed of professional and unprofessional men, and that there shall be no casting vote between them. In other words, if the professional men were all on one side, and the unprofessional men on the other, there would be a tie; that the one party must go over to the other to make a decision.

Mr. Ware:—I beg to ask whether the Trustees, in considering it, made any distinction between close and open competition. It would seem as if, in close competition—that is to say, where certain architects were selected beforehand, and although the authors of particular designs were not named, the names of the whole body were published—that this difficulty might not be so much felt.

Mr. Wight:—The Schedule provides both for open and close competition. The article as adopted, section 5, refers to neither one nor the other, and therefore to both.

Mr. Dudley:—I would like to ask one question for information: whether it would be considered unprofessional to compete except upon those terms. It is only a recommendation, I think.

Mr. Wight:—We appointed this Committee to find that out.

The Chairman:—The whole subject is in the hands of the committee, who are requested to sift this business and find out just what is best under the circumstances, and the object of Mr. Ware's inquiry this evening is to facilitate the working of the committee, so that they may arrive sooner or later at some decision which will help us.

Mr. Van Brunt:—It seems to me that the objection which was suggested by the Secretary to the proposition of the vote of competitors might be, to a certain extent, remedied by having the vote an open one, and not a close vote.

The Chairman:—That is a good suggestion.

Mr. Dudley:—It has been suggested that the competitor vote for any design except his own. This would prevent that difficulty, I think.

Mr. Littell:—I remember the question was discussed some years ago in the Convention, or in the Institute at least, and one gentleman, who is no longer a member, stated that he had been on a competition where that was the case. Each competitor had only one vote. On the first ballot each man voted for himself, and there was no result. On the second ballot each man voted for the poorest design in the lot, believing that no one would vote for it, so the poorest design was actually selected by the architects.

The Chairman:—The open ballot that Mr. Van Brunt suggests, would remedy a difficulty of that kind.

Mr. Wight:—The question is this: would not a man vote openly for the worst design in order to get a job?

The Chairman:—It is hard to tell how far a man might go in iniquity.

We have no motion before us in regard to this subject. I have allowed free discussion, thinking that the nature of the question required it. If it is not yet sufficiently matured to condense it into a motion, perhaps we had better pass it. Is there any other point in your Report, Mr. Ware?

Mr. Ware:—The next point is in regard to supervision and superintendence.

There is the duty of seeing that the design is properly carried out, and that so much of the specifications as relates to the design is adhered to; and there is the duty of seeing that so much of the specifications as does not relate to the design, but to the execution of the work, quality and character of the materials, and the momentary faithfulness not only of the contractor, but of the men in his employ, is what it should be. I think the committee, after some discussion, have recognized distinctly that there are in the nature of affairs these two different sort of things to be looked after, and that one of them is essentially and necessarily a part of the design, and the architect's own proper work; and that there are also, in addition to that, certain things required in the specifications, and done upon the building, and which are not the architect's work, but which enter into his work, not as a part of the design, but as a part of the building.

Since there are these two *different* kinds of supervision to be done, is it not better to call them by two different names? Is it not better to call this mechanical oversight, *superintendence*, and to call the professional oversight, *supervision?* And does not this, in fact, correspond to the common language of mankind? When, outside of the profession, at least, people talk about the superintendence of a building, do they not mean that sort which a competent mechanic can give? And that being so, is it not well for the profession to recognize these two different things?

The majority of the committee, I think, were of the opinion that in a large work it was necessary and desirable for the superintendence to be intrusted to a clerk of the works, or some person especially competent to perform it.

Mr. Van Brunt:—We all of us have learned from practice that a very important element, perhaps in many cases the most important element of work in this country, is promptness and speed. The way in which the work is done, is often secondary, and speed and promptness are the essential results to be aimed at. If there is any such divided responsibility, I do not see how promptness is going to be obtained. There must be somebody who is the supreme head, somebody who is responsible for all the details of the work, and for the prompt and proper execution of it. What I desire to state is that this should not seem to contemplate any divided responsibility whatever. The architect should be the supreme head of the work, and must be responsible for the promptness with which it is done, as well as for all the other qualities of excellence that are required.

The Chairman:—And if there is an inspector or clerk of works, that he must be subject to the architect.

Mr. Van Brunt:—Entirely.

Mr. Littell:—The main question, it seems to me, we are attempting now to decide, is as to what superintendence is, and what supervision is, and I think no man can tell where supervision stops, or where superintendence begins, unless the Committee on Professional Practice is able to solve that problem. It would be of very little use to make a distinction. It is just the same thing with our drawings. We have two buildings, say, costing the same amount of money. For one we have to furnish four or five times the amount of drawings we have to furnish for the other. We can not claim any extra compensation for that. We must furnish *all* the drawings that are necessary to carry out that building, and we must do the necessary supervision. It lies in every one's own hands to protect himself from being called upon to do unnecessary supervision. I think it is a matter that can very safely be left in the hands of each special practitioner.

Mr. Hunt:—I would like to introduce a resolution to this effect: That an Architect should in every case superintend his own work.

Mr. Richard Upjohn:—There is no other man can do it, and Architects must take that position; if they don't they are not Architects.

Mr. Fernbach:—As regards the matter of superintendence and supervision, I will not call it exactly the difference between tweedledum and tweedledee. There is a distinction; perhaps a distinction without a difference. You cannot define where superintendence ceases and where supervision commences. If supervision is the term for looking after the æsthetic part of the work, even that work cannot be carried out without proper material. You cannot have your design represented in all its parts, if to represent them improper material is used. Hence your supervision carries you into the superintendence, and it is almost impossible to say where the superintendence should stop, and the supervision commence. I think that the Architect should be responsible for the entire work; that in some cases there should be a clerk of the works, a practical man, so called, who takes care to see that no improper material is used; but he is only a subordinate. He is your right hand man while you are gone from the building. If the specification says there should be such and such material used, it is his business to see that the contractor does not take advantage of your absence; and that may be confided to a clerk of works. This clerk of works should be paid, of course, by the owner or by the committee. That part of the practice, I think, is rather backward in New York; it is very seldom that a person of the kind is employed. Everybody in good faith expects from the Architect that he will do superintendence as well as supervision; that from the beginning he will not only see that the design is carried out, but that no other material but what is strictly proper is used.

Mr. Wight:—I think that the reason why clerks of works are not oftener appointed in New York is that we have a very large class of good, reliable mechanics, and generally these reliable, responsible men get the important contracts. The Architects know that a great many of those men are reliable, and they take special pains to find out if they are good men. I have always, when owners who named the builders to be employed have said or hinted that the work was not what it should be, said to them, "He was your man, and you took him on such evidence as you could get." Now, we all know that the owner may honestly think that he has the best builder in the country, and that man may not be the best builder.

Mr. Thayer:—To test the sense of this Convention, I would like to offer a resolution: "That it shall be considered unprofessional for any member of the Institute to allow himself to be employed in cases where he is superseded in authority in the execution of his work."

Mr. Hatch:—I think the gentleman should not confine it entirely to members of the Institute, but it should read, that it should be considered unprofessional for any Architect.

Mr. Van Brunt:—I would like to ask Mr. Thayer what is meant by being superseded in the work.

Mr. Thayer:—I mean that the Architect should be supreme authority on his work; that he should have charge not only of the execution of its artistic portion, but also of the mechanical parts; that it may enable him to employ a clerk of the works, or mechanical superintendent of any sort, and that under no circumstances should he be superseded in any way in the authority over the work.

Mr. Hatch:—The mere designing of a building does not make a man an Architect. He has to carry it out; he has to be a builder.

Mr. Richard Upjohn:—It is all settled in one word, and that is this: the Architect is the master builder. That settles it. I have always carried it out so, through the whole course of my professional life. I never would submit to any man, or allow any man to come on the premises and dictate to me. If I cannot carry out the work, then the employer must get somebody else to do it. [Applause.]

Mr. Dudley:—There is another difficulty connected with this motion of Mr. Thayer's. It seems to me our schedule of charges provides that a client may employ an Architect to furnish the design, or he may employ him to furnish a design and general drawings, or a design and full set of drawings and details, without supervision or superintendence at all. By this motion it would make it compulsory to employ him as superintendent, wherever the work might be, which would be literally impossible.

Mr. HUNT:—I have retained my position as Architect, no matter where the building was, in this way: I have never made a design for any builder; I never would, and I have never made, neither will I make a design for any client, without the distinct understanding, and always in writing, that if the sketch which I furnished is not used, it is to be returned, and if it be carried out, that I am the only man to carry it out. I am now building in several different parts of the United States, and I do not find any difficulty in carrying out the work.

Mr. DUDLEY:—I propose to provide in every contract, that in all questions touching the drawings and specifications my decision shall be final. The Architect is supreme. I have built in almost every State of the Union. I built two churches in Minnesota last year, and two in Illinois. I have never been to see them; I give them every drawing that is desirable, and I have no trouble. I am the Architect of the building just the same.

Mr. HUNT:—Our practice agrees there; I cannot imagine a case where the Architect cannot hold his position as an Architect. If I were going to send a design to China, I would hold the contract over it.

The CHAIRMAN:—In regard to the clerk of the works, I would like to say one word with reference to my experience, if the Convention will permit me. Some twenty-two years ago, I think it is now, I had a rather important work on hand, and found difficulty between the contractor and the building committee. The contractor was roguish and disposed to cheat, and I constantly reported him to the building committee, and the building committee said they did not know what to do about it, and I told them the only way was to appoint a clerk of the works. That is the first time I ever heard of a clerk of the works being appointed in this country. I knew it was the custom in England, and at my suggestion they gave me authority to appoint a man to that position. All my contracts since that time have been drawn in this way, "Under the direction of the Architect and his assistants." I have always insisted upon having that clause in the contract, by which I am at all times permitted to appoint a man, if I think necessary. I found that it worked very well indeed, and I think it would be well for the Convention to adopt that suggestion in regard to their contracts.

Mr. LE BRUN:—I invariably make that clause in the contract, and I add still more. I have found that builders, when they wanted to execute work badly, would make the access to the scaffolding so dangerous that the Architect or his agent could not get there. I always add, that they must furnish safe facilities to inspect the work in every part of the building.

The SECRETARY read Mr. Thayer's resolution as amended:

Resolved, That it shall be considered unprofessional for any Architect to allow himself to be employed in case he is superseded in authority in the execution of his work.

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. HUNT:—If a man wants to have me make a sketch for him, I say on condition that I am employed to carry it out. I can not do a perfect thing—it will be a very imperfect thing any way; but supposing you gave it to another man to carry it out, and he should make a first-rate thing of it, and people said: "Who did that?" would Mr. Hunt's name be mentioned at all? No; it would be Mr. Smith, who carried it out. Suppose Mr. Smith botches it, and it is very bad: "Who did that?" "Mr. Hunt did that." [Laughter.]

Mr. WARE:—I desire, for the information of the Convention to say, that in connection with the enterprise, of which we saw a part up-stairs—that is to say, the enterprise which the State has undertaken, of having the elements of drawing taught gratuitously in every part of the State to children, whether they want it or not, and to any grown person who desires to learn—not only is every large town obliged to support free evening schools in drawing for adults, but every town is obliged to have drawing taught in the public schools. The State appoints a general superintendent of drawing for the whole State, whose duty it is, not only to superintend the evening schools, but to see that drawing in common schools is pursued on a judicious system. In order to perfect the system, collections of drawings have been made, and will to-morrow be on exhibition. This exhibition consists of a complete set of drawings, such as are made in the schools of art in England; a set of drawings from one of the municipal schools of Paris; a set from Nuremburg, and a set of drawings made according to the system of popular instruction at Belgium, partly executed by the pupils, and partly by the normal school of teachers—teachers who were taken into the drawing class in order that they might learn to teach. If the members of the Convention, on their way here, between ten and eleven, find it convenient to stop at that place, they will receive a hospitable welcome, and will be able to see what is, I think, one of the most interesting collections of drawings that has been made about here, and the beginning, perhaps, of the most extensive and systematic course of artistic instruction which has been set on foot in this country. The peculiar interest of these drawings is that they are drawings actually taken out of the schools, the drawings themselves being the work of the pupils. They are the actual results of the system of popular training in four of the cities of Europe.

At any time after ten o'clock and before the Convention meets, if the gentlemen present will come, they will find the building open and the room ready for their reception.

The Convention then adjourned to Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

MORNING SESSION.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. UPJOHN.

The CHAIRMAN:—Mr. John H. Sturgis, of Boston, will read a paper on Terra-Cotta.

Mr. Sturgis read the following paper:

TERRA-COTTA AND ITS USES.

"That history repeats itself is shown by the revival of the use of Terra-Cotta. Four thousand years ago, baked, cooked or burnt earth—terra-cotta—was common enough in Egypt, and was the building material of that people. It was used by the Greeks, by the Romans, and by various European nations in the middle ages, and now in the Paris Exhibition, proofs are afforded in all parts of it, that modern Europe is largely reviving the use of terra-cotta;" so writes Mr. Cole in his report on class 65 of the Paris Exhibition of 1867. On the clay cylinders which were found at Nineveh, are impressed, in characters still sharp and clear as when they were first produced, the names and acts of rulers who flourished more than three thousand years ago; and we see in the Etruscan vases and Tazzae, not only the beautiful art, the refined taste and the poetic imagination of that mysterious race, but also the judgment with which they selected the most durable material in which to hand them down to future ages. Indeed, all nations whose early history is known, whether Egyptians, Greeks, Romans or Gauls, have left us samples of their works, and the fact that in this practically imperishable material, we have presented to us, more completely than in any other, the thoughts and works of artists from almost fabulous antiquity, in every age and in almost every civilized country, down to our present time; this *fact* I say, may well incite us to a careful study of the uses and advantages to be derived from the employment of terra-cotta in modern architecture. Those of us who are acquainted with the beautiful examples of terra-cotta in Italy, certainly would wish to see this material used, as far as practicable, in countries like our own, where so much brick building is in vogue. Donato Lazzari, better known as Bramante, who lived 1444–1514, shows, in his Ospedale Maggiore, the church of S. Maria delle Grazie, and in other churches, as well as in private buildings in Milan, that much can be done in this material; the cloisters of the Certosa, near Pavia; the Foro dei Mercanti, and many palaces in Bologna, have been treated with equal success. Many interesting examples are to be found in Ferrara, Forli, Pisa, Sienna and even Venice and Rome, with their marble palaces and rich basilicas, did not disdain works in terra-cotta. Now let me give you some examples of its more modern use. The whole of the exterior of St. Pancras' Church in London, is faced with Portland stone ashlar. The Caryatidæ, which are copied from those of the Erechtheum at Athens, are of terra-cotta. They were formed in pieces and cemented together around pillars of cast iron, which in reality support the entablatures, These blocks do not seem to have contracted very severely in baking, and have been chiseled in places to conceal the joints. This is a serious mistake, as the outer surface of terra-cotta always becomes vitrified, and where cut away often exhibits weather stains, which would render it more liable in our climate to succumb to the effect of frost. A singular method of employing the material is exhibited in those portions of St. Pancras' Church where blocks larger than (at that time, 1820) could easily be burned in one piece were necessary, viz., the enriched portions which have either been inserted in short lengths into recesses and grooved in, or merely stuck with cement against large blocks of Portland stone. This may be seen in the west doors, of which the architraves are enriched with terra-cotta rosettes stuck against the stone, while the enriched cyma and the bead are let into grooves in the stone in lengths of about a foot, the stones themselves being from three to four feet in length. Although one is at first inclined to condemn this use of terra-cotta, it has many points in its favor, as the exposed parts of the stone are the portions most liable to decay, and by thus making them of a very indestructible material, the general durability of the building is increased. All Souls' Church, in Langham Place, London, is ashlared in Bath stone; the capitals of the columns are of terra-cotta. Now in both these examples the terra-cotta has withstood the wear and tear of climate and the effect of London smoke and soot far better than have the stone. They were both built about fifty years since.

Sutton Palace, near Guilford, in Surrey, is a remarkable example of Tudor building of the most elaborate kind, the ornamental parts of which, including the mullions and transoms of the huge windows, are of red and white terra-cotta. This was built in 1530, and some blocks and specimens of the material have been presented by the present owner to the South Kensington Museum. They are in excellent condition. The coats of arms inserted in the walls of Hampton Court Palace, of terra-cotta, are of red color. It has been exposed to an *English* climate for three hundred and fifty years, as it is certainly of the same date as the building. It is attributed to Maestro Giorgio, who was in England at that time. The modeling of the head of the Cæsars is bold and vigorous, and although the work has been exposed to the wind and rain for ten generations, and the brick, the stone and almost every material used in the construction of the palace, is more or less worn and decayed, this substance was, until within the last twenty-five years, untouched by the restorer. It is now painted, and some parts which were damaged have been added in cement. It has also been used for the gateway of King's College and various works at Cambridge; the frieze, capitals, trophies, figures, fountains, &c., at Buckingham Palace; the frieze and capitals of St. Paul's School; the colossal statue of Britannia, on the Town Hall, Liverpool; the pediment with the subject of the death of Nelson; statues, &c., at Greenwich Hospital; the vases on the terrace in front of Somerset House; the statue of Britannia, twelve feet high, and all the figures, &c., on the Nelson Monument, at Yarmouth, facing the sea, the stone of which is rapidly decaying; the statues, &c., at the Bank of England; the rich Gothic Screen of St. George's Chapel, Windsor; the tiles on the footways of New Westminster Bridge; all the ornamental work for the new buildings lately erected and now erecting at South Kensington, and also the huge Albert Hall. When it was first proposed to use terra-cotta at South Kensington, it was submitted to various tests; among others, the underpinning and some of the lower members on two sides of an open court, were built, the one of Portland stone, the other of terra-cotta. After a time it was found that the stone had changed color and showed premonitory symptoms of disintegration, whereas the terra-cotta had as clean and perfect a face as when first put up. The Church at Lever Bridge, near Bolton-le-moors, in Lancashire, which was built in 1845, an elaborate structure in the decorated style and with a spire of open tracery, is executed entirely of terra-cotta made on the spot; the pews, which are low and open, with bench ends and poppy heads, are moulded in terra-cotta and painted. The Bauschule, by Schinkel, in Berlin, is a remarkable example of the modern adoption of terra-cotta. In it, moulded bricks and terra-cotta are used with great success. The Phoenix Fire Office of London showed their faith in terra-cotta, by having escutcheons made of it and building them into buildings which they insured, but finding it inconvenient to remove the slabs upon the cessation of an insurance, they gave up the practice; but you may still see some about the streets of London. In the "Builder," of February 21, 1851, is figured part of a terra-cotta front of a Romanesque Gothic character; it is on the Lungo l'Arno, at Pisa. Sir Charles Barry used terra-cotta for architectural purposes in 1856, and, in later years, Mr. Gilbert Scott, Sir Digby Wyatt, Mr. Charles Barry, in Dulwich College, Mr. Butterfield, at Rugby, and Mr. Waterhouse, in the Manchester Town Hall, have all used it freely and with good effect. For further examples, I would refer you to the publications of the various manufacturers.

What is terra-cotta? We all know that the words mean burned earth, or, as we now commonly call it, burned clay—the purer the clay, and the freer from extraneous matter, the better the terra-cotta. My friend, Mr. Redgrave, who has had charge of the building of the Albert Hall, says, "The clay from which the best white terra-cotta is prepared, is that which is found alternating with shale in the coal regions. The clay, as it comes up from the coal-fire, is generally very stiff and solid, from the great pressure to which it is subjected. To prepare it for manufacture, it has to be broken up and ground, and for good work those portions are selected which are most free from shale and extraneous matter." Another authority says, "The principal ingredients are white potter's clay, fragments of the best stoneware pottery, ground to a powder, pulverized flint and glass." Mr. Blashfield uses the clays of Dorset, Cornwall, and Northamptonshire, Lynne sand, ground glass, pegmatite or china stone, feldspar and flint, also broken terra-cotta or burnt ware pulverized, and for very light porous articles, fossil bone is used with terra-cotta. In my judgment, all baked earths, no matter what the other ingredients, if properly burned, are terra-cottas. Terra-cotta should be sufficiently hard to resist the scratching of a pin, and if of a very superior quality, of an iron point. The variation in color in white, buff, and red terra-cotta is principally due to the clays, but in a measure to the amount of heat to which it has been subjected. Other colors, such as black, grey, green, blue, &c., are obtained by the mixture of mineral colors with the clays and other substances forming the body of the ware. These ingredients are well incorporated together by means of a pug-mill, and moistened to a consistency stiff enough for modelling or moulding into the shapes required. In the case of bassi-relievi, enriched pands, friezes, or sculpture, either of animals, flowers or figures, as the material actually built in is the same as that modelled, or, in other words, as the model itself is burned, they cannot be copied, and are and must remain the sole originals, and can, therefore, never occur except in the buildings for which they were specially designed. When the same form of design has to be often repeated, it is desirable, for economy's sake, to make a model, and from this a mould. This mould is made of coarse plaster, and is from one and one-half to three inches in thickness. The clay is forced into the mould by hand, and thoroughly squeezed into all the crevices—the size of the object determining the thickness of the clay. Cell walls are left in the interior to support the clay in drying, as well as to increase the strength of the block: the thickness of the clay being reduced as nearly as possible to a uniform standard throughout to secure the equality of drying and firing of the material. The average thickness of the terra-cotta is from one to three inches, according to the size of the block. Some makers fill up their blocks, leaving only a few small holes to allow of evaporation; but the hollow blocks are preferable, as being more liable to dry and burn equally, and also for the facility of handling and the better bonding with the brickwork. The clay remains in the mould about twenty-four hours, by which time it has shrunk away from the plaster, and may be removed from the mould. The workman then finishes up the clay block, adding those parts which may be incomplete or damaged. It should now stand from ten days to a fortnight, according to the season, to dry. It is then placed in the kiln and burnt, with a steadily increasing heat, for five or six days, say till it reaches a heat at which soft iron will melt, after which the kiln is slowly cooled, and the finished blocks are taken out ready for use. Small inaccuracies may be remedied by rubbing down the edges with a stone—no easy matter with good terra-cotta. The manufacturer must have accurate drawings of the works to be erected, with each block properly numbered, and he should be made, by contract, to supply no piece of ware which shall not properly fit with its neighbors. Great accuracy is required in the drawings (which must be made one-twelfth larger, to allow for shrinkage) for terra-cotta, as compared with those for stone; for, whereas an error in form or dimensions in the latter may be remedied in a day or two, it requires from eight to ten weeks to replace a piece of terra-cotta which may not come up to the mark. Plenty of time must, therefore, be allowed to the manufacturer. Now, in this country, where we are sometimes required to put up a building with the rapidity of a slave of the lamp, this is a serious drawback.

There is a difficulty in burning blocks which are to constitute jambs, strings and continuous features, so as to be perfectly true and correct in the mouldings, but a marked improvement has taken place of late in this respect, and if the manufacturers would only pay sufficient attention to the essentials of drying, burning and cooling, even this difficulty may be obviated. The risks referred to are much reduced if the size of the blocks is not too great. For architectural work, the smaller the pieces, or the nearer they approach to the size of a large brick, the more economical will be the work. At the same time there is no practical objection to using terra-cotta in large pieces. These large hollow pieces which may have to carry heavy weights may be filled at the building with fragments of terra-cotta and Roman cement, or with cement grouting, which must be mixed very poor; as the cement, especially Portland, if mixed too rich, very often expands so much in setting as to burst the terra-cotta all to pieces. Eight parts of sand to one of good cement is strong enough for the purpose.

I have lately received a photograph of Dulwich College—completed—in which the long lines of string courses, are as straight to all seeming as they could be made in any other material.

The blocks themselves may be carefully bonded in with the brickwork in cement in proportions of three of sand to one of cement, the face joints being raked out and pointed with a mixture of one part of terra-cotta to one part of lime. There are some, of course, who depreciate this valuable and efficient material; stating that it is unfit for exterior use, and that it is very expensive. Now, this is quite a mistake, for it is much less expensive than stone and more durable than almost any building stone when the proper materials are used in mixing and when it has been well burned; for the high degree of heat to which it is subjected causes it to become a semi-vitrified substance and renders it quite impervious to the weather. Frost or damp has no effect upon it; consequently it retains a sharpness and surface unimpaired by atmospheric changes. The fragments of terra-cotta in the British Museum fully bear out this remark. Almost a century has elapsed since the introduction of terra-cotta into England, and many works done in it may now be seen in as perfect a state as when first executed; while the stone-work in the same building will in many instances be found to have gone to decay. It is in London almost the only material which is able to resist the action of the weather and the acid gases contained in the atmosphere.

THE STRENGTH OF TERRA-COTTA AS COMPARED WITH STONES IN ORDINARY USE.

I have here a table of experiments upon terra-cotta, manufactured by Mr. Blashfield, of Stamford, and carried out at the testing works of Mr. Kirkaldy, at Southwark, showing the results of 46 experiments made with different-shaped pieces of terra-cotta, some of them solid, some hollow, but left empty, and some with the hollow blocks filled in with brick and Roman cement. The result of these experiments shows that the filling-in doubled the strength of the hollow blocks, as the one showed signs of cracking, with a strain of 42 tons to the square foot, and the other required 86 tons to produce the effect. In these experiments the ware was only 1½ in. thick. A solid 12 in. cube of terra-cotta did not show a crack till a strain of 442 tons was put upon it, and to crush a hexagon stable floor brick 4 in. in diameter and 2½ in. thick, required no less than 855 tons. The red terra-cotta which was used for the shafts to jambs, and mullions of the principal floor windows of Dulwich College were proved to be capable of bearing a pressure of 246 tons to the square foot. In experiments to test the wearing capabilities of terra-cotta tiles for foot traffic on Westminster Bridge, the friction of sharp sand and water was applied to a terra-cotta tile 12 in. square, and a piece of *York* stone, somewhat like in appearance and substance our North River stone—for five hours, at the end of which time it was found that the terra-cotta tile had lost 1-16 in. in thickness, and the *York* stone had lost ¼ in. Of course all these tests apply only to such terra-cotta as has been properly mixed and thoroughly burned.

Besides the advantage of durablity and strength, the use of terra-cotta at times effects a saving in time and, consequently, in expense. It has been estimated that had the bas-relief of the pediment of Greenwich Hospital been executed in marble, it would have required somewhere about ten years to have completed it, but in terra-cotta it was done in two years.

There comes in also the practical question of weight and, consequently, the cost of transport, for with terra-cotta, unlike stone, no unnecessary or dead weight has to be carried, for it must of necessity be modelled of its proper size, and moreover, as for thoroughness of burning it is made of moderate thickness and hollow, the weight to be conveyed is reduced to a minimum.

Granite (Quincy) weighs 167.75 lbs. per cubic foot. Sandstones generally from 103 to 167 lbs. Ohio or Buenavista stone, 144 lbs. Solid terra-cotta weighs 122 lbs., and a hollow cube 2 inches thick, weighs but 68 lbs.

Mr. Barry writes, "On the subject of the cost of terra-cotta work, I will mention some facts, by way of examples, which, as far as they go, are highly satisfactory, but the cost of terra-cotta must be largely reduced as it becomes more extensively used, for in this case, no doubt a reduction might take place in all the items of the manufacture. Still, with all the existing drawbacks, the economy of terra-cotta as compared with stone is great. Speaking in general terms, it may be said, that taking cube for cube as fixed in a building, terra-cotta costs a little less than soft stones, as Bath, &c., while as regards Portland, the average differences would be about 35@40 per cent. The greatest economy is to be found when there is much work either in under cutting of mouldings, which costs nothing extra in terra-cotta over ordinary mouldings and in artistic modelled work." Mr. Barry further states that "The ground floor windows at Dulwich College were made and fixed complete for £19 each; their cost in Bath stone would have been £20, and in Portland £28. The principal floor windows, which are of rather elaborate design, were fixed complete for £41 each; they would cost in Bath stone £57, and in Portland £86. This cost includes the modelling the busts in high relief. These windows did not come, with all their work, to more than 5*s.* 6*d.* per cubic foot. The second floor windows have been fixed complete for £10 each; in Bath stone £19, and in Portland £28 10*s.* each. The cost of the cornice, which is 15 in. projection and 4 feet high, exclusive of the stone corona, fixed complete, is £1 13*s.* per foot run; in Bath stone it could not have been done for less than £4, and in Portland £6 per foot run. Hollow blocks of an average thickness of 2 in. and filled in with broken terra-cotta or brick in Roman cement, the cost may be stated as 3*s.* 1*d.* per cubic foot. The relative cost, taken in the same way, would be 5*s.* 6*d.* for Bath stone, and 9*s.* for Portland."

In the South Kensington Museum is an ornamental mullion carved in stone and the same work executed in terra-cotta. The relative prices were put down very accurately, and were as follows: £5 8*s.* for the work in Portland stone, and £2 3*s.* for the same in terra-cotta. Now in this country, where skilled labor is so much more costly than in Europe, I place the comparative difference in the cost of terra-cotta and stone for elaborately carved work at 80 to 90 per cent., and for plain ashlar at from 25 to 30 per cent. in favor of the terra-cotta in point of cheapness.

Mr. SIMS offered a resolution of thanks to Mr. Sturgis for his able and interesting paper.

A protracted discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of the use of terra-cotta, between Messrs. Sims, McArthur, Stone, Sturgis, Richard Upjohn, Fernbach, Ware, Wight, Hatfield, and others, then followed.

The Convention adjourned until two o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention reassembled at two o'clock, Mr. HATFIELD in the chair, and resumed the discussion on Mr. Sturgis' paper on terra-cotta with its cognate materials, artificial stones, iron, &c.

THE SECRETARY then read a letter from Mr. Lind, of Baltimore, accompanied by designs, as follows:—

Baltimore, Md.,
7th November, 1871.

P. B. WIGHT, ESQ.:

Dear Sir,—I send herewith tracings of plan, longitudinal and transverse sections of the large Hall of the New Masonic Temple recently erected by me in Baltimore, with a view to elicit information from the next Convention of Architects to be held in Boston. When first opened, I received no end of congratulations at the success of the hall in the matter of acoustics—but latterly meet with as much condemnation. The former I account for from the fact that the room, which will hold some two thousand persons, was invariably filled, consequently the reverberation common to all large rooms destroyed or deadened, while by far the larger number of meetings held in it are comparatively slim, varying from three to six hundred persons. The walls are built of brick, and are plastered *without being battened*, presenting a hard surface. The ceiling is hollow in consequence of the great depth of the iron girders supporting the floors of rooms above, and is laid off in panels 15 in. deep, plastered on laths in the usual way. There are no openings in these panels which might allow sound to escape or a more perfect ventilation of the room, which I consider a great defect, but an arbitrary Building Committee compelled me to close them, although designed and prepared for by me. The iron girders are about 92 ft. long and 5 ft. deep, box framed with iron tension rods inside. It is contended by SUPPOSED CONNOISSEURS (?) that the rods in these girders are caused to vibrate by either passing heavy vehicles, the motions of persons in the rooms above them, or the voices of speakers in the hall, so that a constant rumbling sound is the result. It is also contended that the ceiling and walls should have been constructed perfectly plain, so as to present a smooth surface for sound to travel over—a plan quite opposed to the theory of acoustics, which is, as I understand it, that all ceilings above 30 ft. in height should be *broken as much as possible* to prevent sound traveling the entire length of the room and then rebounding in the form of a distinct echo. Many other theories and ideas have been started but none very practical. I have thought, therefore, the subject—which is generally of importance to the profession, called upon as it is to design and construct all kinds of buildings for public and social use—would be an interesting one to bring before the Convention, and am sorry I shall be unable to do so in person.

I would briefly add my opinions of what would remedy the defects complained of, and they are simply these:—

First.—I would have the hall *filled* entirely, so that as little reverberation should take place as possible, but as this can not always be done, I would

Secondly.—Put side galleries on the same level as the end one.

Thirdly.—I would make openings in all the panels to better ventilate the room and remove the stratum of compact air which must necessarily remain between the space from top of windows to level of ceiling, these ventilators to open into space between ceiling and floor and thence connecting with the outer air by flues already formed in the walls for that purpose, and

Fourthly.—Prevent the vibration of tension rods—if any occurs—by filling in with tow or sawdust.

But these are mere suggestions for remedying defects that exist. It were better to avoid such errors for the future. I should like, therefore, to obtain the views of the Convention as to what would have been the *proper and best* mode of constructing the hall, so that it should have been in reality a perfect success—whether by battening; by lining with wood instead of plastering; by forming a ceiling of canvas and paper; by making the room less or more in height than it is; by omitting the recess in rear of platform; or such other changes as the experience of the members of the Convention may devise.

I shall be much obliged if you will bring this matter before the meeting, and hope it will derive as much profit from the contemplation of the subject as information is desired by

Your obdt. servt.,
E. G. LIND.

P. S.—I believe the Boston Music Hall is generally admitted to be the best in the country for sound. It is said to be built on strictly acoustic principles, each dimension of length, breadth and height being an exact multiple of thirteen. I should like to know whether this be actually so, and whether the Architect who designed it has carried out the same principles in other buildings and with what success; whether it be necessary that the same proportions be observed in adding to or deducting from the dimensions of that building, or whether simply a multiple of thirteen will always effect the desired object. The Boston Hall, is, I believe,

130 ft. long=13×10
78 ft. wide=13×6
65 ft. high=13×5

Now, if I construct a hall 91 ft. in length, should it necessarily be only 39 ft. wide and 26 ft. high? or may it be 52 ft. wide and 26 ft. high?

E. G. L.

On motion, the subject brought up by the communication was postponed.

The CHAIRMAN:—Mr. Wight will address us in regard to some effects of the fire at Chicago.

MR. WIGHT:—I have not made special preparation to say anything on that subject. I had the fortune to be in Chicago three weeks after the fire, and I believe that other gentlemen in this room have been there, and probably know as much about the results of it as I do. During this visit of three days, my attention was directed to several matters growing out of the recent fire which I thought it would be very profitable to bring to the notice of the Institute; a careful consideration of which might guide us in our future experience. It is only while sitting at this desk that I have noted down some headings in case I should be called on, as was intimated, to make any remarks upon the effects of the great fire in Chicago. I regret this want of preparation very much, as I had hoped to be able to read a paper in continuation of my previous remarks on Fire Proof Construction (already published by the Institute), in which I might have incidentally alluded to this important event. As it is, I can do nothing more than to speak of some facts which I noted.

First, in reference to materials.

BRICK.—The brick used in Chicago are of two kinds—the red brick and the buff Milwaukee brick; the buff brick being both "pressed" and "common." As between the two, I noticed that the white brick endured the heat much better than the colored brick, and apparently were a near approach to fire-brick; but both gave way in many instances under the excessive heat.

I will not now attempt to give any account of the fire. We know that nearly the whole city, or at least the most valuable part of it, was leveled to the ground, partly because the walls of its buildings were uncommonly thin in proportion to their height, and greatly, as I think, because the walls were generally built with soft brick "fillers." It is common there for builders to bring to the ground soft brick as well as hard, and to put them inside of the walls; and the architects do not seem to be able to prevent it. This seems to be the universal practice there. I witnessed it thirteen years ago, and I have seen the same thing being done since the fire. The effect of the heat on brick walls was terrific. There were 12-inch walls standing 12 to 20 feet high that were all shattered to pieces, where little or nothing had been on top of them, showing that the walls themselves were cracked, and bent, and twisted by the heat; and the color of the ruins, especially of the brick work, was generally whitish or bluish, and sometimes a sulphurous yellow. Probably the latter was due to the presence of coal and iron intensely heated.

I noticed no smell from the fire, because no water had been used, perhaps; but the bricks were nearly all burned white, even the red ones. This will give us some idea of the intensity of the heat. Some of the brick were actually burned—if you can say that brick is burned in the common sense of the word—rent to pieces, not broken as they fell. I saw bricks which seemed to have been rounded off by the heat, yellow in some places and white in others, showing almost total destruction; and reduced to softness instead of being over-baked and vitrified, as is very often the case.

STONE.—The effect of the heat upon stone was about thus: The Illinois limestone, which is principally used in Chicago, and generally called Athens stone, was the worst to stand the test of heat. It was in very many instances entirely calcined, so that there was scarcely anything remaining of some buildings which were built of brick with stone fronts; and in a few instances the effect on the stone fronts where the "backing" stood up one or two stories in height after the fire, was to burn them off entirely, leaving a few chips only. In many instances the stone was rounded at the joints, looking more like boulders than ashlar.

The effect on the Lockport limestone, of which the central portion of the Court House was built, was not so bad as on the white limestone of Illinois, but it was very badly damaged by the heat. Of course, I am not taking the ground that any stone will stand heat. I am only giving the relative effect of heat on different stones.

The two sandstones which seemed to stand the heat best, were the Cleveland stone and the Lake Superior sandstone, which had lately been introduced. I found that there was a difference of opinion among architects of Chicago as to the endurance of the Cleveland stone. They said there were some buildings in which it did not stand as well as the Illinois limestone; but the only building in the burned district on the "South" side which stood intact—an unfinished one, which stood in the middle of the fire, but where it seemed to diverge, as if there had been a change in the current of the air—was of Cleveland stone, and in that building there was not a flaw; nothing cracked or broken. In fact, it was not injured at all, except that the solder in the galvanized iron cornice was melted, while the lantern of a lamp-post on the side-walk was entirely melted, so that pieces of the tin framework hung down like ribbons.

The Lake Superior sandstone stood very well. I saw it in an unfinished building, which still remains, three stories in height, but somewhat damaged.

The effect on granite was as usual. There was very little granite in the city, but there were a few blocks lying in the street, simply exposed to the radiated heat of burning buildings, which were cracked throughout, and rounded off, and some of them, parties told me, exploded from the effect of the heat. It was a common thing for the Illinois stone to explode where the heat came suddenly upon it and was very intense. It seemed to calcine with great rapidity, and I suppose the effect was very much like that seen in the manufacture of popcorn. (Laughter.)

I did not see any marble. There were several buildings of marble from Westchester County, New York, but I did not happen to pass by them, and they might have been entirely consumed. But I wish to say this, in justice to artificial stone, that there was one building called Farwell Hall—one of the two or three whose walls stood from the foundation to the top, after the fire—and on one side of that a great deal of artificial stone was used. I don't know whose patent stone it was, but it was used from the second story up to the top, in pilasters, cornices, and sills. In many places this stone was scarcely injured at all; but I would not base any argument in favor of artificial stone on this fact. There are many sound objections to it, and it may be employed to advantage for many purposes. But a discussion of these is not pertinent to our present inquiry.

We now come to the so-called "petroleum stone," which the newspapers have reported was entirely consumed, and in fact assisted in spreading the fire. There was one church in Chicago built of what they call prairie boulders, which ten years ago were supposed to contain tar, but really contained petroleum. The amount of petroleum in the church was so great that the heat of the sun would draw it out, soon after being set up in a wall, and it would run down in black streaks. The effect of the heat on the inside of the walls threw out upon the exterior all the oil it contained, which formed a thick hard coating, about a quarter of an inch in thickness; and though the interior of the church was exposed to great heat, and every particle of wood in it was burned up, so that there was not a scrap left in it, the interior sides of its walls were not greatly injured. In some places the stone had flaked off, and yet this stone stood the test better than any other natural stone used in the city. That was the effect upon the petroleum stone.

It is interesting to note that the Nicholson pavement stood the test remarkably well. In some places the upper part was charred off, especially where it was new; but the curbstones were in some places actually destroyed, while the Nicholson pavement remained intact. I would suggest as to whether the presence of tar in the wood was not similar in its effects to the presence of the oil in the stone. We may possibly discover a valuable property in tar or oil, from this experience.

With respect to the effects of the heat upon mortars, I noticed that all kinds of mortar seemed to stand heat better than stone. There were places, I noticed, where bricks were burned out and chipped off, and where the mortar stood out between the bricks, showing that the mortar stood the heat much better; just as the artificial stone stood the heat better than the sandstone and limestone.

Iron.—With reference to the effect of the heat on iron: wrought iron floors, or wrought iron beams in many places gave way very readily. There were several so-called fire-proof buildings there, in which the floors were of the usual rolled beams with arches between. Some were with brick arches—as the Post Office—and some were with corrugated iron arches—I think it is the Russell arch—covered with cement. In the Post Office everything has gone; probably this is not as much due to the giving way of the brick floors, as to the giving way of the cast iron columns which supported the floors. In the *Tribune* Building and the new additions to the Court House, the arched floor of corrugated iron seemed to stand the heat remarkably well; and my opinion is that this is due to the concrete arch formed in floors thus constructed, rather than to the corrugated iron; the iron being simply a centering upon which this cement had been placed and hardened.

I noticed that in the Court House very many of the floors remained, where the rooms were entirely burned out; the fire had gone out of the windows, and the floors remained. In some of them the beams had been softened, so that they sagged. In others the beams were protected and remained on a true level, but in some places they had given way entirely. This was in cases where the beams were carried entirely upon the walls. The weakness seemed to be primarily in the beams, rather than in the filling between them. I had no opportunity to compare very well the brick with the concrete arch; however, I can say that the concrete arch stood the test remarkably well, and the falling of the floors was in most instances due to the giving way of the beams.

The effect upon iron columns was most lamentable. In the so-called fire-proof buildings the damage was in almost every case caused by the giving way of the cast iron columns, which seemed to yield very readily. The heat was so intense in many buildings as to melt off the ends of the columns, and many of the cast iron columns were bent to a considerable angle, having been softened only, while most were broken like china pitchers. The loss of the Post Office building was due to the giving way of the iron columns in the first story, upon which were heavy wrought iron girders, and brick partition walls.

FIRE-PROOF SHUTTERS.—With respect to iron shutters, I have formed the opinion that the Post Office building, which has iron shutters, was destroyed because one of the windows was left open. The intense blast of flame and heated air seemed to strike on that side and carry the fire inside of the building. The shutters stood perfectly sound all over the building just as they were left, and nearly all were closed. They were exposed on one side to the fire from without, and on all sides to the fire from within; and I saw but one or two that appeared to be even warped or twisted out of place by the intense heat, so as to let the air through; from which I infer that those shutters, had they been all closed, would have kept the fire out of the building, and it would have been saved.

STONE CELLAR WALLS.—I noticed another fact, showing the danger of using stone underpinning where there is a liability to intense heat in the cellars. Some of the brick walls built on stone foundations in the cellar story had fallen, on account of the stone underneath them being broken up. I saw in a new building which had only two tiers of beams set at the time of the fire, that the wall was burned out six inches inside of the face of the brick wall. There was a twenty-inch brick wall upon the stone wall; the stone wall, I presume was two feet thick; this was a party-wall, and it was actually scooped out about six inches, showing that the stone wall burned out under the brick wall. This shows us that it is better to carry the brick work of party walls all the way down to the bottoms of the cellars.

NECESSITY FOR HEAVY WALLS.—The importance and the necessity of heavy walls to resist the fury of such a conflagration was everywhere evident.

(It is of little consequence to us as architects to discuss the question as to how the fire could have been stopped. I am only trying to find out those points which will be of benefit to us in future experience.)

The fire seemed to have lost intensity around those places where the few walls stood intact, showing that if the walls had been heavy enough, the rapidity with which the fire advanced would have been checked; that is, if any number of walls had stood from the foundation to the top.

PROTECTION OF IRON BEAMS.—I was struck with one fact in connection with the use of rolled iron beams, and it was, that the beams often sagged before the filling gave way; and I was impressed with the idea that precaution should be taken in fire-proof buildings to protect the underside of the beam, so that the heat cannot affect the stability of its lower flanges. The lower part being exposed, absorbed the heat, and the beams consequently sagged very often. I would direct the inquiries of the Institute to the propriety of covering the lower parts of the iron beams with cement, artificial stone, or terra cotta, or perhaps to the advantage of plastering the ceiling underneath the iron beams. All the buildings with iron beams that I happened to see, were without any plastering underneath, except where the soffits of the brick arches were plastered. Those which had the corrugated iron arch showed the corrugated iron, and those which were brick were plastered only on the brick, so far as I could see.

I do not think that iron lath had been used in any of these buildings for ceilings.

VAULTS.—In the construction of safety vaults one fact was made evident: That those were most secure which were built up in tower form, from cellar up. I have a small photograph here, showing a very picturesque tower, formed of the vaults in the Exchange National Bank, which were built up to the fourth story; and it stands now, a very beautiful ruin. More gratifying, however, than its picturesque beauty, is the fact that the contents of all the vaults were preserved, not only in those of the Bank, but above. I would call attention to the great folly of building vaults upon floors, especially heavy brick vaults, as was the case in the Post Office. The vaults in that structure were built, I think, on the second story, and all fell through into the cellar and were broken to pieces, while those in this bank, and other buildings, which were built up in tower form, remained intact, and preserved their contents.

THE COURT HOUSE.—With reference to the general structure of the fire-proof buildings which were exposed to the fire, I will offer a few explanations. The Court House consisted of a central building which was not fire-proof, having a wooden cupola. It had a wing on each side, which was built in a fire-proof manner. The walls stand to this day, and seem perfect, except where they are blistered on the outside. This building was once the subject of much comment, especially on account of the fact that its roof fell while in course of erection. It cannot be taken as a good example of a fire-proof building, and I think it is of little interest to us, except in so far as it demonstrates some of the effects of heat on materials.

"TRIBUNE" BUILDING.—The *Tribune* Building, of which we have heard a great deal, and which actually withstood the fire longer than any other, on account of having iron shutters on its rear windows, tightly closed, was an example of a very carefully constructed building, in which all the materials used were fire-proof; but it had this great fault, that the walls were very thin. All the internal partition walls above the second story, were twelve inch walls. There were very few walls built on beams, which accounts for the fact that the walls stood so well after the fire. This shows the advantage of building walls directly from the ground, and avoiding mixed construction of columns and girders, with brick walls above them. Yet the walls of this building by the heat of the burning material inside, were cracked in every direction, so that, particularly in the upper part, those twelve inch walls seemed to be warped and twisted by the effect of the heat; showing that the brick wall itself did not stand the test given by the combustible material in that building: that is, the goods, paper, and furniture contained in it. They were not heavy enough.

With reference to the Post Office, I would like to say this, and put it on record: I had the fortune to witness the erection of a considerable portion of that building. I was then impressed with the idea that it was one of the best fire-proof buildings in the country, and I think so still; and I think that the building would have been preserved with all its contents, if the window shutters had been closed, and kept closed at the time of the fire.

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN AGAINST FIRE FROM WITHOUT.—The experience of this building points to the very great importance of having good strong window shutters; no matter how they are made, so long as they are strong enough; make them double, or treble, or quadruple, with air spaces between, but by all means keep out the fire from neighboring buildings, even if you have nothing in your own house to burn. It shows that every fire-proof building should have fire-proof shutters on every window, whether on the front or on the rear. It is the habit with us to put them on the rear, and very often to leave them off the front. We say, "Our building is fire-proof; there is nothing in it to burn." But there *is* something in it to burn, and the very books, papers, furniture, and carpets used have proved—as in some of these buildings in Chicago—sufficient to soften an iron beam, and destroy the best constructed floors. This experience also points to another fact, which I will not dwell upon, because it should be treated at greater length and with great care. It is as to the use made of fire-proof buildings, and the purposes for which it is practicable to erect them. The fault in the construction of the Post Office was, that the first story was one open room containing iron columns, even though amply strong for the support of heavy girders and brick walls, and the partitions above them. The articles used in the Post Office, the desks and sorting tables, and all the apparatus used for the business, brought together a great amount of combustible material, and when the fire reached this it destroyed those columns utterly, and with them the entire internal structure. This fell, as witnesses tell me, a very short time after the fire commenced in the building. What more than this can show the importance of running all brick partition walls to the ground, and avoiding columns, except when they support only girders and floors? I believe that a building whose floors are trussed from wall to wall with very heavy trusses, built with some fire-proof material, would be stronger than one whose floors are supported on iron columns, even though they may be close together and of undoubted strength for ordinary purposes.

Of course, this fire was no ordinary experience; it raged with an intensity heretofore unknown, and it is hardly possible that such an event can happen again. It is not probable for it to happen in a city like New York or Boston; yet I think that we can not be too careful in providing for emergencies of all kinds; and as we construct floors and columns to stand a theoretical weight, much greater than the weight which they are actually to carry, I think that we should use just the same caution in the construction of fire-proof buildings, and not make them just good enough to stand what they are intended to stand, but to make them so much better that we will make assurance doubly sure in that respect.

IMPORTANCE OF FIRE-PROOF ROOFS.—The fire in Chicago showed the necessity of better roof protection, and I think this is one of the most important problems for the modern architect to solve. I believe it has been introduced into the New York Chapter as a special subject for discussion this winter. It is well that it should be, for it is more properly a subject for discussion in the Chapters than in the Institute. The roofs in Chicago were perhaps the most insecure parts of these buildings. Very many of them were covered with tar and gravel roofing, which it is said assisted in the extension of the fire. The progress of the flame was such, according to the testimony which I have gathered, as to make the roof the vulnerable part of the building. The current of the wind, as in all hurricanes, was downward, at an angle of about thirty degrees. All seemed to concur in this opinion. Of course, the immense heat produced over a large surface by burning buildings caused a rising current. The rising current of air came against this falling wind, and as it lost strength in rising against this, a fresh current of wind struck it above, and it turned and impinged directly on the tops of houses. People who stood and looked at those buildings, say the fire ran down, as it would go through a hole, right through the roofs of buildings; and people going along the street were overtaken by this downward current, which was so violent that in some cases it burned the hair off their heads. Of course, those were not frequent instances; but one man put an overcoat over his head, and ran between two buildings, when this current pinned him against the side of a building. He was held there some time, until at last the current changed, and he ran for his life. He saved it, but lost his coat, and the greater part of his hair. This shows you that in a great fire fanned by a hurricane, the current of heated air comes directly down on the tops of buildings, rather than communicates from house to house. It shows the great importance of making the roof the best part of the building.

This is all that I am able to lay before you on the present occasion, but I hope to look into the matter more carefully and prepare a paper for publication, which will be offered to the Institute at a proper time. [Applause.]

The CHAIRMAN:—I would like to ask Mr. Wight a question in regard to the roofs of these fire-proof buildings; what they were composed of; were they of this tar and gravel?

Mr. Wight:—I am only acquainted with the construction of the roof of the Post Office. I saw that roof put on. I frequently went up on top of it while it was being constructed. That was an exceedingly good roof, probably as good a roof as has ever been built. It was a brick roof; there was a tier of beams with brick arches, entirely covered with brick, and then raised above that was a wrought iron frame work, covered with corrugated iron, just raised up enough to give a pitch to the roof; so if the iron had been entirely consumed the brick floor under it would have preserved the building. I don't know how these other buildings were roofed. I think that the Court House had a truss roof.

The Chairman:—Will any other gentleman who visited Chicago, add anything in regard to this roof question?

Mr. Fernbach:—I think it is rather important to find out whether any of those fire-proof buildings were covered with the gravel roof, that is, on the top of the brick arches, and whether they took fire in the same way that other ordinary roofs did. It is not uncommon to construct roofs in that way, having a tier of beams with brick arches leveled off and with a graveled roof above, immediately on top of the arch. I think it would be interesting to get further information on this subject if possible.

The Chairman:—If I am not mistaken there are one or more gentlemen here who visited Chicago.

Mr. Sturgis:—I was there Mr. President, and I promised Mr. Wight that I would assist him and say whatever occurred to me on the subject, but he has so exhausted the whole matter that I have nothing further to add.

The Chairman:—Has anything occurred to you in regard to the subject of these roofs?

Mr. Sturgis:—There has not. I went there unprofessionally.

The Chairman:—I learned from one gentleman who was there, that this *Tribune* Building, which was said to be particularly well constructed to resist fire, had not only a gravel roof, but a tier of wooden beams, and plank on them to support the gravel roof, and some others of the fire-proof buildings were similarly constructed.

The question now before you is the address by Mr. Wight. Any discussion upon the subject will be in order.

Mr. Stone:—Were the shutters of the Custom House wrought or cast iron?

Mr. Wight:—They are what are generally called panel shutters, secured inside of the window frames to iron frames built in the brick work, and making a complete fire-proof connection independent of the window frames and sash. They were very heavy iron, with sheet iron behind them; I don't know what thickness it was; they were shutters that would hardly warp under any heat.

Mr. Sturgis:—Do I understand you to say they were inside?

Mr. Wight:—Yes, sir.

Mr. Sturgis:—In the Post Office also?

Mr. Wight:—This was the Post Office and Custom House as well. They were in the same building.

Mr. Boyden:—I would like to ask if you discovered any vaulted walls there—walls built with an air space?

Mr. Wight:—The Post Office has walls four feet in thickness, from the first story up to the roof; the outer wall is three feet in thickness, and there is a four-inch space, and then an eight-inch brick wall inside. I think some of the walls in the *Tribune* Building were hollow, though they were only twelve-inch walls. If they were not hollow, there were places for beams or ventilation flues. At any rate there were spaces inside, showing that there was some kind of opening in these twelve-inch walls. But the walls of the Custom House stood admirably, and on three sides now they are as perfect as on the day when they were put up. The building is really only blistered on one side. The destruction is from the interior, caused by the giving way of the iron columns, whereby the whole mass fell. It is entirely open to the sky, and even at the ends, many of the offices which were built up with brick partitions from the ground, were torn asunder by the falling of the mass. These great girders tore everything down. The walls are perfect, and only in a few cases have the beams, in falling, torn out this eight-inch lining on the inside.

Mr. Cummings:—Ordinarily I suppose the ends of the beams bent.

Mr. Wight:—They were pulled right out. It was the anchors that pulled out parts of the lining, but the outer wall was intact.

Mr. Stone:—You spoke of these iron beams. Did it soften them, or was it the expansion produced by the heat below, in their bottom flanges, the top flange remaining cool on account of being protected by the frame work, that made them sag; or did they melt?

Mr. Wight:—I think the lower flange of the iron beams, where I saw that they sagged, and had not fallen, was to some extent expanded by the heat, but at the same time they must have softened, because the expansion could not have given them that curve. It was the weight of the floors that gave it to them. They settled down to a certain point, and, perhaps, were held in the walls by the anchors, or sustained by adjoining beams which were not so greatly heated.

The Chairman:—There is no question but that Mr. Wight is correct in this, and it is a point that we have not sufficiently considered. We select an iron beam to support a floor, upon the simple test of its strength in a cold state, forgetting that it may be heated so greatly, that the iron will not only be expanded in length, but rendered so soft as to destroy all tenacity among its particles, and consequently give way under its own weight. And then in regard to the iron columns being served in the same way by heat, this is a thing not new. In a factory at Oldham, in England, many years ago, there was a building that was supposed to be fire-proof, being constructed entirely of iron and brick, brick arches on iron posts, no iron beams, as I understand it, but simply iron posts supporting the brick arches at their various intersections. This building was several stories high, and was destroyed one day by an accidental fire in the carpenter's shop, which was in the first story. The workmen having left a fire under the glue kettle, communicated to some shavings near by it, and by these shavings to some pieces of boards stacked around a column. Just this little fire softened the column to that degree that it let down the arch immediately above it; and this allowed the next arches to fall, and so, suddenly, the whole building was a complete ruin.

Mr. Fernbach:—In connection with this debate I should like to gather information in regard to what New Yorkers term fire-proof columns. According to the Building Law of New York we are obliged, in constructing buildings, a part of which may be supported with an iron construction, to support that iron construction by a fire-proof column, this column consisting actually of two castings, the shell being filled with plaster of paris. Does any one know whether such construction was used in Chicago, and whether it stood the test of fire? The theory is, that notwithstanding the intense heat which may melt away the outer casting, the interior column, being protected by the plaster of paris filling, would stand.

Mr. Wight:—I made inquiry on this very point, and could not find any evidence of such columns being used. I know they were not used in the Post Office, because they had not been invented at the time when it was built. I am quite sure they were not introduced in any of these fire-proof buildings. I understand the New York Building Law requires them to be used in buildings which are not fire-proof, in places where they would be liable to become heated, and they would hardly have been used in cheaply constructed buildings which were supposed to be fire-proof.

Mr. Hathorne:—There is one matter, in connection with the fire at Chicago, that I should like to make some explanation about. I noticed, being there myself, that some of the telegraph poles, where the buildings about them were entirely destroyed, the poles being of the ordinary size, stood — not perfectly, of course — but charred. They stood very much better than would be supposed. I think if, in the place of iron columns, perhaps of 8 or 10 inches diameter and hollow, hard oak posts could have been used, the effect would have been very much better, and they would not have been so liable to destruction as iron; that they merely would have charred upon the outside very slightly, and kept up the iron beams above, and been a greater security than the iron posts. That idea was suggested to me, perhaps, by observing the telegraph poles there, not entirely destroyed, and of course very much smaller than we would use for supports to floors.

Mr. Rand:—The gentleman on my right asked a question in regard to hollow walls. I had a little experience with hollow walls in the Portland fire. I was called to make an estimate on the City Hall, of which I was the architect, which was partially destroyed. There was a building there, called Woods' Hotel, a large building, with apparently heavy walls, with a hollow space in the centre. That building fell completely, so that there was scarcely one brick left on another, while buildings with good heavy walls, running up quite a distance, were found almost perfect after the fire. The wood part of the City Hall was burnt out, and the roof falling in, fell through the segmental arches, and destroyed many parts of the building below, but where the walls were solid and thick—20 inches thick—they were found almost as perfect as any building after the fire, showing, I think, that a good solid wall, running up the whole length, from the cellar to the attic, is the best in the construction of a fire-proof building. I consider a vaulted roof, so far as my experience goes, to be very unsafe.

Mr. R. M. Upjohn:—I would like to ask, in regard to the Post Office at Chicago, if the shutters remained closed to the other windows, except that one that was left open.

Mr. Wight:—I don't know which one it was that was left open. Nearly all of them were closed when I saw them, showing that they had apparently hurried to close up the shutters before the fire.

The Chairman:—If there are no further remarks upon this sketch by Mr. Wight, we are then ready for any other papers that may be proposed for discussion. Has any gentleman a paper that he wishes to read?

Mr. Sims:—I move that—

Whereas, The members of the American Institute of Architects, present at this Convention, have seen with the greatest satisfaction and pleasure, the scheme of Art Education as pursued in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in this City:—

Resolved, That this Institute most earnestly expresses the hope that the time is not far distant when other cities in this extended land of ours will imitate the example of Boston, in establishing systematic courses of instruction in the art which is, more than any other, necessary to the material growth and improvement of the country at large.

Mr. Bloor:—I second that.

Adopted.

Mr. Hatch:—I have a resolution that I wish to offer.

Resolved, That it is with great satisfaction that this Institute has availed itself of the opportunity of witnessing the system of free instruction in Industrial Drawing, which has been established throughout this Commonwealth, and this Institute would earnestly express the hope that similar systems will be established by other States.

Mr. Bloor:—I second that.

Adopted.

Mr. Hatch:—I now wish, as the Session is about closing, to offer a resolution, embodying a vote of thanks, for the handsome way in which the Institute has been entertained by the Boston Chapter, or the Boston Society of Architects, as they were formerly known, and, in accordance with that, I move:

That the thanks of the American Institute of Architects be tendered to the Institute of Technology, for their kindness in affording the use of their rooms to the Convention.

Mr. Fernbach:—I move that the resolutions of Mr. Hatch and Mr. Sims be properly engrossed and presented to the proper authorities.

Mr. Bloor:—I second that.

Adopted.

The consideration of the subject introduced by the communication of Mr. Lind, of Baltimore, was then taken up.

Mr. Hunt:—As I understand the construction of that hall, it was plastered directly on the brick work, was it not?

Mr. Wight:—Yes, sir.

Mr. Hunt:—As regards the reverberation, it is said that when the hall was first opened and filled the acoustic qualities were remarkably good; that since then, when the hall is not filled, they are very bad. The assumed reverberation from the tie rods and beams in a hall is a point I have heard suggested before, and I think it would be a good plan to put in tan, sawdust, or some such material to prevent the possible reverberation. He also suggests putting on stuff or paper on the ceiling. I think that is a very good way to get rid of the hard surface, and I would therefore suggest the trial of stuffs on the wall.

The CHAIRMAN:—You mean cloth hanging?

Mr. HUNT:—Cloth hanging; Yes, sir.

Mr. HATHORNE:—I would like to offer a suggestion which occurs to me in this connection. It is suggested by the statement, that when the hall was filled, the acoustic properties were perfect, but when the hall was partly filled, they were very defective. Now it appears to me, if the filling of the hall answered to make the acoustic properties perfect, that the same result might be reached by having the seats stuffed in some way by upholstering. I think it would answer in a measure, the same purpose as filling it with people.

Mr. HATCH:—That is a very good suggestion, and I understand, also, that this very thing has been done in the Board of Brokers' Hall, in the City of Boston, the acoustic properties of which were imperfect, and they had to stuff the seats to correct it.

In looking at the section of this Baltimore building, one sees that part of the lecture room where the platform is situated is curved. I know a building where the proportions of the church were almost identical with this. It is a Presbyterian church, and the ceiling of the apse was formed in the same way, for the purpose of throwing the sound out into the room. The consequence was, that a wave of sound went out and returned to the center of the hall, and was met by the one coming from the lower portion of the hall, so that you could not hear a word that was said by the best speakers in the centre of the room. They called upon an Architect from Brooklyn, Mr. Keeley, I think, a gentleman who builds a great number of Catholic churches. The end of the room is plain, having the apse arch just in the center. He put up a screen, bringing it down about six or eight feet, and it had the effect of stopping the whole of that reverberation. There was no further trouble with it. Previously you could hear a whisper in any part of the church, and the annoyance was so great, that the minister, who was quite a musician, and always took part in the singing in the church, had to stop singing, because by the time his voice reached the organ it made a discord.

Mr. R. M. UPJOHN:—I have had some little difficulty of this kind in a small building which I built in Westchester County, in a room that was 24x48, in which, before it was completed and occupied, there was a considerable echo. Since the room has been used there has been no difficulty in way of echo. I have constructed another room that was 35x70, precisely of the same shape, and there was no difficulty, though the height in both cases is about 24 feet.

Mr. STURGIS:—In answer to Mr. Hatch's proposition of hanging stuffs on the wall, I would say that in the Royal Albert Hall, when it was first opened and filled with people the acoustic qualities were very good indeed, but afterwards when they had concerts there, and only had about one-fourth the number, the acoustic qualities were very bad. Col. Scott, now Gen. Scott, thought of the same system, and hung a curtain across the top of the hall, bellying down. That answered the purpose very well. I will also state in regard to the Peabody Institute, in Baltimore, that the effect of hanging drapery on the walls was an entire failure.

The CHAIRMAN:—Which shows that our knowledge of the laws of acoustics is yet limited.

Mr. HATHORNE:—The gentleman who has just spoken said that in the one case the hanging of the drapery was effective, and in the other one it was not. I would like to inquire if the material of the hanging was the same. It is my impression that if one material were heavy and absorbed the sound, and the other a very light material, one that would reflect the sound to any extent, it would make a difference.

Mr. STURGIS:—The one material was very light. I don't know what the one in the Peabody Institute was. Mr. Perkins is my informant about the Peabody Institute, and he has left the hall.

Mr. WARE:—I would like to add, that in three or four rooms that I have had to do with, of which the acoustic properties were notoriously bad, the walls were of brick, while in other rooms which were lathed and plastered, there was no difficulty.

Mr. Rand:—If they would plaster the wall so as to give a space between, it would entirely cure the difficulty. I think it is almost in all cases owing to their not furring off. As Mr. Ware says, the sound strikes dead against a brick wall.

Mr. Dudley:—I have known one or two instances, in some of the courts of law in England, where there has been the same difficulty. I am of the opinion that the room in question is about square, which causes the trouble, and in these courts, curtains have been suspended, which cured it. I suppose it is the experience of all that an empty room has a reverberation. In every church that I have built, there is too much reverberation when empty, and when filled, there is no difficulty.

Mr. Fernbach:—It seems difficult to arrive at any conclusion on this topic of acoustics. It may be interesting to the Convention and gentlemen present, to be informed, that one of our professional colleagues of New York, Mr. Alexander Saeltzer, who professes to have studied this subject most thoroughly, is about to publish a pamphlet on acoustics. He says there are certain laws governing acoustics, which are invariable. It is to be regretted that his paper is not published yet. He said that the Appletons were going to publish it shortly. I am sorry so important a subject should be delayed for another year.

Mr. Hatch:—I would move that we now adjourn.

Mr. Sims:—I second the motion.

Mr. Ware:—Before the meeting adjourns, I should like to say to those who may be present, who have contributed their drawings to this collection, that it will be a convenience to the Institute if they can allow them to remain for a few days. They are in the hands of the Committee of Arrangements, and they will confer with the Institute as to when they shall be returned. If they are not sent back directly, it will be because the Institute desire that they should hang for a few days longer.

The Chairman:—Before the motion to adjourn is put, our President will say a few words to us. [Applause.]

Mr. Richard Upjohn:—Gentlemen, I congratulate you that we have had such a pleasant time, and we shall, I think, go away a little wiser than we were when we came here, in regard to various subjects. I hope to meet you again next year with greater advantages in the experience which we shall have gained by that time. [Applause.]

The Convention then adjourned to meet at the Parker House at 5 P. M.

Wednesday Evening.

The Convention and invited guests assembled at five o'clock, in the Banquet Hall of the Parker House, to partake of the Annual Dinner of the Institute. At the close of the dinner, after speeches by Messrs. Richard Upjohn, Ware, Wight, Hunt, Hatfield, Rand, Moore, Weisbein, Perkins, Richardson, R. M. Upjohn, Sturgis, Hartwell and Stone, the following address was delivered by President Eliot, of Harvard College.

Mr. President and Gentlemen:—An eminent clergyman of New York city, lately declared that Harvard College has become wholly devoted to bricks and mortar and material science, to the exclusion of literature, philosophy, and religion. [Laughter.] Without vouching for the perfect truth of this allegation, I mention it here, because, in so far as it is true, it certainly ought to commend Harvard College to a Society of Architects. [Laughter.] The College has done a good deal of building during the last two years, as our friend, Prof. Ware, has just said, and in my official capacity, I have had many opportunities of seeing the trials and difficulties of your noble profession. They are many and various.

I have been particularly struck with the difficulties resulting from our extraordinary climate. The art has grown up in different climates from ours, and while its essence remains everywhere the same, its practice must be modified to meet our new local needs. Our Architects must provide simultaneously against a scorching summer heat, and an intense winter cold, against torrents of driving rain and the penetrating dust of dry snow; they must remember the dead weight of wet snow and the sudden fall of icicles, and the inevitable showers of hail. The dry prairie gale makes fire more formidable than it is where rain or snow accompanies high winds. But these natural difficulties have their use and compensation. Being studied and successfully overcome, they will help to create a distinctive architecture in this country,—an architecture which will be duly subordinated to Nature, as we know her in her capricious American moods, and so will be strong, enduring and beautiful.

You must all curse the memory of the unfortunate man who first thought of laying out a new American town in rectangles. [Hear! Hear!] A more inartistic, monotonous, wearisome and inconvenient mode of laying out a city, it would puzzle human ingenuity to devise. It gives no conspicuous sites, and no good points of view. Every street is as tedious as a turnpike, and as to getting from one part of such a city to another, one can have no peace of mind at all until he has utterly forgotten that the hypothenuse of a right-angled triangle is considerable shorter than the sum of the other two sides.

But after all, the greatest difficulty which meets you in your profession,—and I am sure you have all felt it,—is the intensely utilitarian spirit of our country and our generation. We are pulling stumps, and building fences, and stringing out endless lines of iron rail and wire, and digging canals, and making ten thousand bushels of corn and a thousand hogs grow this year where last year there were none. As yet we are chiefly occupied with these superficial wants, these gross creations. Rarely do we take time and thought enough from these things, to secure and perpetuate the political freedom which we have inherited. Education and art suffer meanwhile. Our higher education is entirely in the hands of inadequately endowed private corporations, and the sum total of all the endowments which have been accumulated for this purpose, the whole country over, since the landing of the Pilgrims, is less than the capital of a single one of our continental railway lines. There are several insurance companies in this country which have a larger capital than the sum of all the moneys which have been been invested in Harvard College in two hundred and thirty-five years, grounds, buildings, funds and collections all included. Till within ten years, the colleges and professional schools of the country lived in barns and barracks. Our churches are only just now ceasing to be simply meeting-houses. Our people make noble benefactions and sincere votive offerings. But how utilitarian the good men and women are! How much has American architecture heretofore profited by these good deeds? In other times, a votive offering was a reliquary for the patron saint, or a sacrament-house, or an Oxford quadrangle, or a Lady Chapel. Now it is a model lodging-house, or a hundred wooden shanties for Chicago.

In all this we recognize the inevitable, and are thankful for the great goods we have, though art in architecture be not among them. Moreover, we know that beauty and enthusiasm for beauty are not dead but sleeping, and we live in the hope that, if we succeed in holding fast our political and social freedom, fair fruits will yet grow from the rich soil of our material prosperity. Indeed, we see signs of this fairer growth. Our very institutions of finance, transportation and trade, are becoming magnificent as they get substantial. The most elaborate rooms of mediæval finish which I know in these parts are occupied by a bank in Court street. Our railroad companies are beginning to realize that brick and wooden sheds do not offer all the accommodation which the public may profitably get, Our successful insurance companies are building palaces. These better buildings, though they are for business purposes, will bring us Americans one step nearer palaces for painting, sculpture, music, education and religion; yes, and palaces too for that noble and refined family life which is the most characteristic product of Christian civilization.

Architects must watch with pleasurable anticipation the distinct strengthening in this country of the tendency to accumulate money in families. After all, there is no patronage for an artist like that of the single patron who has only himself to please, and is thoroughly master of his own resources. Hitherto our form of government and social mobility have not seemed favorable to the transmission of great properties from one generation to another; but we already see that education and culture have become hereditary, and soon wealth will be. The catalogues of Harvard, Yale and the other older colleges, prove the transmission of culture. There are already families which have had four, five, and even six consecutive generations at Harvard College. New methods of securing property to descendants, particularly to women, are constantly invented, and some of these methods will succeed.

Let us all look forward to that cheerful day when competitions and building committees shall be no more [applause], when the individual owner, or representative of owners, shall engage the first leisure of his architect by a handsome preliminary fee, and pay his architect's bill for professional services when the work is finished, in the same spirit in which he pays the bill of his legal counsel, and when the architect's bill shall be based on the equitable value of services rendered, and shall be limited only by his desire to keep the business of actual clients and get that of other sensible persons.

I want to congratulate you, gentlemen, before I sit down, on the existence of this Institute. You have taken the only method which is possible in this country, of improving the standing of your profession. No legislative bars guard the profession. The Government does not and can not aid you to keep the profession pure or to sift the aspirants to it. You must depend, therefore, upon your own exertions, on your associated action intelligently and incessantly directed to the elevation of the standard of the profession. [Applause.]

Mr. Ware: It is to the intelligent gentleman who laid the foundation of the Institute of Technology, to its past and present President, that the Architectural Department of that Institute owes its origin. I will ask President Runkle, who is our guest to-night, to speak of the Institute of Technology. [Applause.]

President Runkle, then spoke as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen:—It has been with great pleasure that the Institute has had the power to extend to the Society of Architects, the courtesies of the last two days. So far as Harvard College is concerned, you have heard that you, as architects, may look forward to a long term of years of professional employment. So far as we are concerned, our duties are of a very much inferior, but

I trust not less important character. We are to do what we can to aid in educating the new generation of architects, and I suppose it is unnecessary for me to spend a single moment in telling you what we have already done. You have been at the Institute, and through Professor Ware you already know what the Institute has done for the education of architects. In the establishment of an Architectural Department, we were without models, either good or bad, in this country. The first thing the Institute did was to send Professor Ware abroad, in order that he might have the leisure to study the systems of architectural education in Europe, and at the same time collect such materials as might aid us in making the first beginning in the work of architectural education. This beginning, however humble it may be, has already been made, and so far as the corporation of the Institute is concerned, and I speak in behalf of that corporation, we are doing everything in our power to build up a genuine, thoroughly equipped, architectural school. [Applause.] We know, gentlemen, as well as you, that at present the Architectural Department of the Institute of Technology, is simply in its infancy, but I trust that with the aid and the sympathy which we have every reason to hope the profession will extend to that school, and to other schools which are springing up all over the country, that the day is not far distant when architectural education in this country will rank with any other and with all the other professional departments. And although I intended to take but a single moment of your time, I wish, before I sit down, simply to ask this: that in so far as you architects believe that the Institute of Technology, in its Architectural Department, is doing a genuine work, that you will do what is in your power to aid it. You know, gentlemen, very well, the embarassments under which an architectural school in this country, must inevitably labor. The students are not surrounded, as they are abroad, with the best models of all ages, but we are to accpt what we have already done, and to build upon such a foundation, and therefore it is necessary that in an architectural school in America we should make collections, and supply the Department with every possible appliance, and appliances such as the student abroad has only to step outside of his studio to see all about him. I was very glad indeed to hear yesterday, in the very able and judicious address of your President, a recognition that in Boston there is a step in the right direction; that not only is the public taste in matters of architecture being gradually improved, but that from year to year we can point to the evidence of this increased culture. We are not at present, devoid of structures which we may reasonably look up to with some degree of pride, but these are not due entirely to the architects of Boston, they are due to the best genius of the architects of America.

As President Eliot has said, the architecture of America is to be American; it is in the necessity of the case, and therefore, instead of surrounding ourselves with casts and figures, and drawings of the works of the past, and the works of Europe—and these are all well and necessary—we are to instill into the minds of the young architects of this country, the spirit of American architecture, and therefore, if every architect present would enable the students of architecture in the Institute of Technology, during their course of instruction, to transfer the drawings of one of the best of their best works, in order that the cabinets of the Instisute may contain these drawings, and that they may be used in the instruction in the Department, there would be an immense step gained, I am satisfied. But, gentlemen it is not for me to say one single word in praise of the Architectural Department of the Institute. Whatever that Department is, the corporation owe distinctly and emphatically, and almost completely to Professor Ware, [applause,] and to the earnestness, the enthusiasm, and I may say, gentlemen, the self-devotion which he has displayed toward that Department, because hehas, as you may well suppose, done it at the sacrifice of his professional labor. I can assure you of one thing, that the corporation of the Institute of Technology is thoroughly and completely alive to this Architectural Department. You may suppose that the engineering profession absorbs all the interest of the Institute. This is by no means the case. We know no difference.

But, gentlemen, I am very grateful to you for having met in the Institute of Technology. The obligation, I can assure you, is on our side; and if you come to Boston next year, or the year after, I trust you will see that the Department of Architecture has not been standing still. [Applause.]

Mr. Ware:—I call upon Mr. Walter Smith, late Master of the School of Art, in Leeds, to speak in acknowledgement of what has been said of the system of art education in the State and in the city.

Mr. Smith responded as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen:—You have been kind enough to pass resolutions of approval of what the State has done, and what the city of Boston has done, in the matter of art education. The system of education of the State and of the city, although it has been declared to-night by a very much higher authority than any one else in the room, to be in a not altogether satisfactory condition, still is in that condition that it does receive at this present moment, the practical homage of Europe; I do not say every country, but of very many countries in Europe; and the wonder to us has been for many years, how a people so devoted to education, and applying it so much as you have, should have left out the subject of art education so long. Now, inasmuch as to-night I have heard that this architectural association is only fourteen years old, I am not altogether surprised to find that you have only now taken up the question of art education, and I do feel that in the great problems which you have already solved in general education, you have the very best guarantees, that in the future the same kind of energy, and the same penetration, I may say, which has erected for you a fabric of general education, ought, if properly directed, to obtain for you also a thoroughly good system of professional art education. Already in the Institute of Technology you have the subject of architecture as part and parcel of the general scheme of education, and now you have come to the conclusion, a conclusion which we arrived at in England something like fifty years ago, that to educate the masses of the people to appreciate works of art and good taste, and to appreciate that which gives to architects their profession, there ought to be a general education in art for the masses of the people. That is the conclusion to which you have arrived. Now, I feel that in coming to this country, I am not altogether here as a foreigner, I do not quite recognize myself as an individual of a different race from those I see around me; and although I am here in the midst of you, a stranger, I am not so entirely unknown; there are gentlemen in this room whom I have met in Europe; but comparatively a stranger, I have yet to learn the ways of the new world, and get acclimatized to its peculiarities; yet I do feel that if the work which the city has undertaken, is carried out conscientiously and well, it will be very much in the shape of a foundation for what you have to do. I know very well what committees are; I thoroughly sympathize with what the President of Harvard College has said about Building Committees, and the rest of his remarks. A friend of mine once said in my hearing, in the presence of a very large committee, that he regarded a committee of any sort as the most unadulterated invention of the devil left. [Laughter.] I have found that of committees, a very large proportion of them are very much given to hindering the work that they are supposed to help—and I have been connected with building committees, too—supposing that an architect has not sufficient difficulties of his own. I do hope that the time will arrive when you will overcome that difficulty, and that you will not have to depend so much upon the utilitarianism, which has been remarked upon. My own feeling as a stranger, looking at the buildings which I see around me in this city, is one of very great hope. I have seen new combinations of material, and several very original phases in the building, and they seem to me the best guarantees that there will be a characteristic development of architecture in this country. And I do hope that when we have educated the public, and you have administered to their wants architecturally, you will feel that our foundation work of driving in piles in the popular mind, has not been altogether without effect. I hope the time will come when the great museum of fine arts, now being formed will be an accomplished fact, and that then the want will be supplied of copies of specimens of the best art which is to be found in Europe. I see no reason why every architectural student in this country should not have all the appliances for art education that he wants in this new architectural museum, combined with the practical instruction of the Institute of Technology, which will be required, to give a thorough, sound education in architectural art; and toward that I hope we are tending.

You have, as the President of Harvard College has stated, certain wants to supply which have never been felt by any other race of architects; I will not say in any, but certainly not in our time, and it will be a question whether you can so blend your artistic and architectural education, with the wants of the present, as to make a distinct style. For my own part, I think nothing at all of new styles. I very much question whether it is possible for any architect of the present day to do anything but make a new characteristic of details. I very much question whether that spirit of Gothic architecture and picturesqueness which you must inherit from your forefathers, is not in your blood, and I question whether you can develop any different style. My own work here is very much like driving the piles upon which you have to erect your superstructure. This is very humble work, and I am not in the fortunate position which the two gentlemen who preceded me are in at the present time. I have neither a Harvard College, with its various buildings, a Chapel and Library, and magnificent organization to assist me in the work; nor have I that fine building, and staff of Professors, and all sorts of good things in the way of apparatus, which the President of the Institute of Technology has; but there is one thing that I have, and that is unlimited faith in the future. I felt, when I was asked by this city to give up my own position in England to come here, that although I was giving up, perhaps, the best position in my own country, I had such an opinion of what was to be the future of this country that I felt it was the one position in the world that could be offered to me that I would take. If there is ever to be a nation which shall engraft upon constitutional, civil and religious liberty, upon a thorougly self-maintaining form of government, all that can be obtained from fine art, as an element of civilization, it must come in this country, for there is very little hope for it in any other. And my own feeling, therefore, is one of intense hope. I look upon this society, which is only fourteen years old, as very much like an infant Hercules; it has not only stood upon its own legs, but has strangled the serpent of bad taste already. I do hope that some of us will live to see the time when architectural art in America is a thing that is looked up to, over the civilized world, and as you have been good enough to express approval of what we have done toward it, I am very much obliged to you. I have no doubt that it will direct public attention to what has been done, and will create the same sort of spirit elsewhere, for if I rightly understand the American character, it is not to concentrate in any one place all the elements of a good thing, but to do the very best possible under the circumstances, and to give everybody else the same chance of doing it, and to hope that they will do it.

The Convention then adjourned.

APPENDIX.

Correspondence between * * * Architect (since deceased), and the Building Committee of the Church of St. * * *

* * * April 27, 1871.

To * * * Esq.:

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the Vestry of the * * Church of Saint * * held on * * a resolution was adopted to invite plans, specifications and estimates for the erection of a Church upon the lot * * corner of * * and * * streets, to conform to the following:

[INSTRUCTIONS.]

First.—The cost of the Church not to exceed fifty thousand dollars, complete and ready for occupancy (exclusive of completion of Tower.)

Second.—The Church to be built of stone, corresponding to the present Chapel on * * street * * * above * *

Third.—Provision for a Tower upon the corner of * * and * * streets.

Fourth.—Interior to have three aisles—one middle and two side.

Fifth.—The chancel to be at the north end of the Church.

Sixth.—End gallery at south end for choir, in centre, and pews on either side. Gallery to be either straight across or curved (horse-shoe style.)

Seventh.—Chancel to be elevated and half recess.

Eighth.—The Church to be built on line with east and west ends of main building of Chapel.

Ninth.—Main entrance through Tower building.

Plan, specification and estimate to be paid for only if adopted by the Vestry.

The Committee will be pleased to receive an acknowledgment to this note, stating whether you will submit plans, &c., upon the conditions herein named, and the *earliest* time you can do so.

Please send your reply to the Chairman of the Committee * * * to whom also the plans are to be directed.

For any further information you may desire, apply to * * * *

[ANSWER.]

Gentlemen,—I have received your note containing a copy of a resolution adopted by the Vestry of the * * Church of St. * * inviting plans, specifications and estimates for the erection of a Church at the * * corner of * * and * * streets.

Be assured, gentlemen, that I fully appreciate the distinguished honor you have done me, by offering me an opportunity to spend my time in making drawings for the consideration of a committee so intimately acquainted with ecclesiastical architecture, and am particularly charmed with the uncommonly liberal terms prescribed by the last condition of the resolutions: "Plans, specifications and estimates to be paid for only if adopted by the Vestry." I have no words to express my sense of your kindness and condescension, and can only say in reply to your note that it shall be carefully filed among literary curiosities.

In conclusion, allow me to suggest that a bargain with the Rector of St. * * * Church, by which his Xtian counsel and advice should "be paid for only if adopted by the Vestry," would be a most economical arrangement, although the reverend gentleman might have the same opinion of such propositions as has

Your ob't sv't

* * *

May 4, 1871.

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